

MEMOIRS

OF THE

CELEBRATED

Miss Fanny M——

V O L. II.



L O N D O N :

Printed for M. THRUSH, at the King's-Arms, in
Salisbury-Court, Fleet-Street. MDCCLIX.

[Price Bound 3 s.]

1774-88
MEMOIRS
HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
AN ANONYMOUS GIFT

JAN 14 1937

CHERISHED

CONTENTS

Continuation of the letters addressed to
Richard H. [unclear] [unclear]
with notes and [unclear] for the
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear]

CHAPTER II

Henry [unclear] O. [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

C O N T E N T S.

C H A P. I.

Continuation of her alliance with Sir Richard. He becomes enamoured with another girl, and takes her into keeping. Fanny resents it, and leaves him.

p. i.

C H A P. II.

*Fanny takes a house in Westminster—
Her new scheme of getting money,
with*

iv CONTENTS.

with the nature of her Rout, and the manner of her acquitting her gaming debts. Also the uncommon passion of an Irish fortune-hunter; and her first interview with beau T——y. 14.

CHAP III.

Containing the adventures of beau T——y, from his own mouth. 23.

CHAP IV.

Continuation of beau T——y's adventures; containing some curious and pleasant anecdotes of his life. 36.

CHAP V.

The uncommon accident which happened to beau T——y, with its consequences. His marriage, and departure for Paris. 45.

CHAP.

CONTENTS. v

CHAP VI.

Containing his journey to Paris, and adventures there, with his conduct to his wife ; the manner of disposing of her, and his return to England. 56.

CHAP VII.

Fanny's journey into Yorkshire ; is courted by a gentleman : a discovery who he is, with some anecdotes of him. 78.

CHAP VIII.

Fanny's great loss, and the necessity she is reduced to, with her virtuous resolution. 84.

CHAP.

CHAP IX.

*Fanny gets again into high keeping—
has a conference with Lady H—
concerning her husband. 81.*

CHAP X.

*Proposals of marriage made to Fanny,
and she rejects them: gets her sisters
married. An adventure at Tunbridge,
very fit to be read by all the fighting
men of the age, who decide points of
honour by the point of a sword. 89.*

CHAP XI.

*The cause of a rupture between her and
Mr. H—; he casts her off: her ac-
quaintance with Lord —, who intro-
duces Mr. L— the author: his
adventure*

C O N T E N T S. vii

*adventure with his bookseller. Fanny's
guests delineated, and the acquisition
she makes in knowledge.* 99.

C H A P X I I.

*Containing a dialogue, wherein the
whole arcanum of modern criticism
is revealed, or reviewing made easy
to the meanest capacity. With a
specimen of his lordship's learning,
and the price of fulsome dedica-
tions.* 108.

C H A P. X I I I.

*My lord does not fulfil his promise,
whereupon Fanny breaks with him.
Her acquaintance with colonel G —,
with whom she goes over to Holland,
and her adventures at Amsterdam,
and the Hague.* 119.

C H A P.

C H A P. XIV.

Fanny's acquaintance with an Italian singer in the packet-boat—his stratagem to screen her from her creditors. She wears men's cloaths, and passes for an eunuch. Her interview with Miss —; and her intrigue with Lady — in that capacity.

129.

C H A P. XV.

Fanny compounds with her creditors, and resumes her female appearance. Sir —'s intimacy and terms: gets acquainted with the famous captain S—: the erroneous opinion of supporting his grandeur rectified.

141.

C H A P.

CONTENTS. ix

CHAP. XVI.

*Breaks her alliance with the knight;
——goes into Wales, meets Sir Richard, who brings her up to town;
his unexpected death, when they were
upon the point of making the tour of
Europe by sea.* 150.

CHAP. XVII.

*Fanny turns prude, and lives in the
city.——A rich quaker pays his ad-
dresses to her, endeavours to make a
convert of her, and is upon the point
of marrying him, when he discovers
who she is.* 159.

CHAP.

x CONTENTS.

CHAP. XVIII.

Fanny resumes her former gaiety, is taken into keeping by a young tradesman, who gives her a new chariot. — He leaves her, and a variety of fortune ensues. 169.

CHAP. XIX.

An adventure at the masquerade, and its consequences. Fanny is arrested for a small debt, and carried to a spunging-house, with an account of the behaviour of the bailiff, and his proposals. 176.

CHAP.

CONTENTS. xi

CHAP. XX.

Fanny's ineffectual address to all her acquaintance to relieve her. She at length writes to Mr. —, who generously pays her debts, and afterwards settles upon her an annuity of two hundred a year, with her present manner of living. 184.

MEMOIRS.

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMOIRS

of the life and
times of
General
George Washington

By
B. H. H. H.

MEMOIRS

of the life and
times of
General
George Washington



MEMOIRS

OF THE CELEBRATED

Miss Fanny M——.

CHAP. I.

Continuation of her alliance with Sir Richard. He becomes enamoured with another girl, and takes her into keeping. Fanny resents it, and leaves him.

THE happy situation we left Fanny in, at the end of the first volume, was not discontinued, but rather increased: every thought of Sir Richard centered in pleasing and diverting

VOL. II.

B

verting

verting her, and she was as sollicitous to make him the most envied man upon earth.

Fanny was now looked upon beyond all the power of gold to attract. Captain L—— visited the knight, and said soft things to his enamorata. The captain was handsome, and just come to an estate of twelve hundred a year: he therefore thought he had a right to enjoy every fine woman he saw, who was possessed, without a noose. He offered Fanny trinkets, jewels and money, and she refused them. She was unwilling to make any misunderstanding between the captain and the knight, and kept the secret to herself.

L—— persevered, and she still refused. He came to her one morning

ing whilst she was dressing, and shewed her the writings of a settlement of two hundred a year, which he was ready to fill up, if she would quit the knight: her gratitude, which never deserted her, still made her protest against the offer. The captain was now desperate, and endeavoured to force from her that which she would not consent to yield. He fastened the door and threw her upon the bed. She screamed, but without procuring assistance for some time: she redoubled her noise, whilst he redoubled his efforts; but hitherto neither had been effectual.

The knight returned home in this critical juncture, and came time enough to her assistance to prevent her being ravished. He immediately drew upon the captain, who was not in a

very fighting posture; but he soon recovered his legs and his sword—and Fanny now cried out more lustily than before, though her virtue was now quite out of danger.

The servants came up and endeavoured to part them, when one of them was run through the hand, which was the only wound given upon this occasion.

When the captain was retired, Fanny found herself so agitated with the danger she and Sir Richard had been in, that she sent for a physician, who prescribed her to lose a little blood; which, however, did not prevent her having a fever, that confined her to her bed for some days.

Whilst

Whilst Fanny was thus indisposed, Sir Richard was struck with the innocent charms of Charlotte E——, who had lately been debauched by a German count. He took her that night to a tavern, and supped with her: the next day he hired a lodging for her.

When our heroine began to recover, she found Sir Richard behave in a manner quite different from what he had formerly done: she at first attributed it to the loss of some of her charms in her illness; but when she studied her glass, and could find no deficiency, her jealousy began to be roused. However, she had no suspicion of her rival, 'till she went again in public.

The first time she walked in the park, after her recovery, she met Sir Richard with Charlotte under his arm. He bowed, and she turned her head aside. She immediately retired; and having conveyed away all her things to a lodging which she took in the neighbourhood, she wrote him the following letter.

“ S I R,

“ O U R long acquaintance, and,
“ at least, on my part, affection, flattered me that I should never be discarded in such an abrupt manner, for one who has no pretensions to beauty, gentility, or, if the world says true, common-sense.

“ This

“ This you may construe into the
“ effect of my resentment ; but what
“ resentment can I bear to one who
“ is so much beneath it, that nothing
“ but your taking notice of her could
“ have withdrawn her from that obscu-
“ rity, in which she with the greatest
“ justice should have remained ?

“ As to the lady I know her not—
“ therefore can have no terms to keep
“ with her—and as to you, this step
“ you have taken has put you upon
“ the same footing with her.

“ You might have expected a mora-
“ lizing or argumentative letter upon
“ this occasion ; but I am neither dis-
“ posed for penning the one, or troub-
“ ling you with the other : besides, I
“ know of what little signification ar-
“ gument

“ gument is, when the mind is already
 “ warped, or prejudiced in favour or
 “ against a person.

“ All I have to add is, you have dis-
 “ solved for ever that union which
 “ was between us ; and that I never
 “ shall be more,

“ Your humble servant,
 FANNY M——.”

The knight, who was not prepared for the receipt of this letter, was greatly shocked at its contents, as, notwithstanding his present momentary passion for Charlotte, he could not find in his heart any of that esteem for her, which forced frequent sighs from him in reading the letter. Charlotte, who was with him at the time, was very curious to know from whom it came ; but he baffled her design, by
 saying

saying it was about business, and that he must answer it directly. He accordingly retired, and wrote Fanny the following billet :

“ My dear GIRL,

“ **Y**OU injure both yourself and
“ me, to imagine I can prefer
“ the girl you saw me with this morn-
“ ing to yourself: the meeting her
“ was merely accidental, and my es-
“ corting her nothing but pure gal-
“ lantry.

“ I am not displeased to find that
“ your jealousy speaks so intelligible
“ a language, as it is the surest index
“ of love ; but I am sorry to find you
“ carry your resentment to such extra-
“ vagant lengths. Moderate it, I beg
“ of you, till you receive this evening
“ fresh

“ fresh testimonies of the love and
 “ esteem of him, who thinks it a pe-
 “ culiar happiness to subscribe him-
 “ self,

“ Your most devoted servant,

RICHARD A—.

He accordingly waited upon her, but she having learnt by that time every particular of his intrigue, and that he even wrote the letter from Charlotte's lodging, she would not give him admittance.

From this ill-fated hour then we must date the dissolution of the most happy pair that ever was united: his pride would not let him submit to greater condescensions--besides, he was actually in possession of his new object.—The honey-moon of love was not over. Her jealousy had already
 made

made her go too great lengths to recant; and the fresh instance of the power of her beauty over captain L——, induced her to believe she might at any time command such a proposal.

She shone more than ever in public—the extreme gayety of her dress had become a new mark of observation; her sedan was the genteelest about town, and her livery was elegant. Thus equipped, she failed not to be at every sale of china and curiosities that occurred; she frequently bought to shew her taste; which so universally prevailed, that the auctioneer always particularly thanked her for setting the lot a going; the price of which, as soon as she had once bid, being at least immediately

ately doubled. She had one morning a contest with the dutchess of ———, at Mr. F—d's sale, about a lot of china, which was at first set up for fifteen shillings; and which after an hour's bidding, she at length condescended to let her grace have at the reasonable price of seventy-five guineas.

Thus signalized, she had many proposals. My lord ——— offered her a thousand guineas down; Sir William ——— twenty guineas for every night's lodging. Such conditions as these were not such as she intended approving—though, if fame says true, she accepted of some of them for procuring immediate cash, the want of which she had before so well known. She began now to approach her four
and

and twentieth year; though time had yet laid no violent hands upon her charms; but a few years more would have put her without the pale of a young woman: for this reason her cards were to be well played for a provision for life; and she gave out her resolution of not cutting in at another party, without playing for a settlement.

C H A P. II.

Fanny takes a house in Westminster.—

Her new scheme of getting money, with the nature of her Rout, and the manner of her acquitting her gaming debts. Also the uncommon passion of an Irish fortune-hunter; and her first interview with beau T—y.

S H E had long since discovered, as well from observation as experience, that a variety of lovers prejudiced a woman's constitution; and that by rendering her cheap, the purchase of twenty did not amount to what she might gain from one whom she flattered with constancy, and who was compleatly smitten with her beauty. With these prudent observations in
her

her head, she had not ten guineas in her purse, and she wanted to execute her settlement scheme, which a general acceptance of lovers would have entirely destroyed.

A new project, which she intended as a means of advancing the first, was now in agitation. The world believed her rich, and she had accordingly credit: this she exercised with her upholsterer to the extent of furnishing a house, which she took in Westminster. A house warming called together all her acquaintance, to whom she gave a general invitation to a Sunday rout, which she proposed keeping every week.

She had four tables, but she always took care to cut in at that where were the richest men. The first night cards

favoured her, and she won a hundred and fifty guineas. The next Sunday she was almost as successful; but the third she lost above two hundred. She desired Colonel B—— to stay till the company was gone, and she would pay him. He accordingly supped with her, and she proved such very good company at a *tetê a tetê*, that he greatly solicited her to pass the night, but she strenuously refused, 'till he at length threw fifty guineas into her lap, and told her he should think the debt of honour also acquitted. A smile now gave consent, and they retired.

She continued practising this method of paying her gaming debts; and as she never rose from table without winning or losing a hundred guineas, at least, she dealt out her favours at a considerable rate, receiving whatever she

she won in cash, and paying whatever she lost in the currency of love.

She soon got money enough to discharge her debt with the upholsterer, and to purchase a very handsome side-board of plate. She now gave dinners to her rich acquaintance, and never failed proposing a party at lanfquenet afterwards. These tête - a - têtes generally turned to her advantage, and her guest frequently left fifty pieces behind him for his dinner.

In this manner she lived sumptuously upon the footing of a demi-rep, to whom no man could get access but by play. A certain Irish fortune-hunter, who had a passion for Fanny, but who could make no proposals that were sufficiently advantageous, was

charmed to hear upon what terms she admitted her gallants. He accordingly got introduced, and passing for a man of great fortune, she invited him to dinner. As usual, cards were introduced, and he knowing how to shuffle them to his advantage, won every time. The usual bond and judgment took place : but as variety is very apt to actuate some men, after having satiated his appetite with Fanny, he discovered a very great penchant for her—watch—and actually possessed it—So strange a thing is love !

However, this adventure made her more cautious not to admit such volatile lovers, with whom a ring or a piece of plate might rival all her charms. She was more attentive to the general character of her guests,
with

with respect to their fortunes and dispositions.

The celebrated beau T——y was introduced to her as a man every way fit for her purpose;—one who thought a woman was enamoured with him, if she would accept of his money or trinkets. Compleatly ignorant of all games, he played at them all with the women, because it pleased them.

This was the man who dined with her two days after her Irish lover had committed the rape upon the index of time. T——y discovered a deficiency by her side, and insisted upon her placing his watch there, which was a chased repeater. She, after some modest opposition, accepted of it, and began to entertain a very favourable opinion of his good-nature.

Dinner

Dinner retired, cards were introduced ; but he protested his ignorance of any game ; and she was therefore to teach him — how to lose his money. This she effected so well, that he left seventy-five pieces (which were all his purse contained at his entrance) behind him.

He flattered himself, however, that this loss would be compensated by her favours ; but here he was mistaken. He should have won as much, and reimbursed her, to have obtained this.

He was not convinced of his mistake, but returned next day to the party—with his pockets better lined, imagining that two hundred guineas, either lost or made a present of, were
sufficient

sufficient to purchase a night's indulgence.

Ignorant of, and unattentive to the play, he repeated more amply the part he acted the day before—and she was still inexorable.

This fortitude and reserve on her part, gave a more rapid agitation to his passions—he borrowed a thousand, and came with it the day after. He offered it her as a present, and she refused it. She proposed cards, and he could not refuse her.—He was stript in two hours.

Out of mere compassion she gave him a night's lodging, which he had now given up all hopes of; and he endeavoured to be the happiest man upon earth. His ill-success in love was as great as at play—in the first,
its

it's true, she took all advantages, but in the latter she gave him all imaginable opportunities, and yet he failed.

She was curious to know the history of a man, who had made so much noise in the gay world, and was glad of an opportunity of having it from himself.—He accordingly favoured her with it the next morning at breakfast.

CHAP.

C H A P. III.

*Containing the adventures of beau
T——y, from his own mouth.*

‘ **M**Y grandfather, said he, was
‘ the famous J—e T——y, who
‘ increased his fortune from an easy to
‘ an affluent one, which he left my
‘ father in possession of. Though he
‘ lived elegantly, he did not much
‘ out-run his income, and the only
‘ incumbrance he left upon his estate,
‘ was a mortgage of ten thousand
‘ pounds.

‘ I was early trained up to study,
‘ and had a private tutor, a clergyman,
‘ to teach me the languages. Nor were
‘ these instructions thrown away upon
‘ me, for I made some advances to—
‘ wards

' wards polite literature, having read
 ' the best Latin and English authors
 ' ere I was fifteen: but French and
 ' the polite exercises were not bestowed
 ' on me. I was twenty before I learnt
 ' to make a bow according to rule;
 ' and to this very hour I know no-
 ' thing of fencing, or riding the great
 ' horse.

' With these accomplishments, and
 ' the deficiency of others, I made my
 ' appearance in the world about my
 ' one and twentieth year. Soon after
 ' which my father died, and left me in
 ' possession of fifteen hundred a year,
 ' clear of all incumbrances.

' Fame multiplies all estates, and
 ' mine was three thousand a year by
 ' report. I was soon beset by certain
 ' polite men, who are so good-natured

‘as to instruct a young fellow in the
‘ways of the town, when he first
‘comes upon it. They were always
‘in the same box at the play, or the
‘opera—had their coach ready, with
‘a vacancy for me at Ranelagh—and
‘were never without their horns to
‘give me a sound at Vauxhall.

‘I at first imagined that these were
‘no other than polite people, whose
‘only design was mutual society; and
‘as such I entertained some esteem for
‘them; but when I soon after disco-
‘vered that their real intent was to
‘fleece me of my fortune, I avoided
‘them with the greatest assiduity.—
‘They had begun to play the first part
‘of their game upon me, which was
‘to let me win some of their money,
‘in order that I might bleed more
‘freely; but they were all that, be-
VOL. II. D ‘fides

‘ sides the expences they had incurred
‘ upon my account out of pocket ; for
‘ I just then found out their intent, and
‘ as readily avoided their snares. What
‘ produced this discovery was a letter
‘ a tavern waiter gave me through
‘ mistake, wrote from one of these
‘ well-bred men to another : the substance of it was, “ That as I had
“ won about twenty pounds of their
“ money, and I seemed quite satisfied
“ with their conduct and behaviour,
“ it was time to begin with me ; that
“ the person to whom this letter was
“ directed was to be my partner, and
“ shuffle all the trumps to our adversaries—that it would be necessary to
“ sink deep the first night—two or
“ three thousand at least ; and that if I
“ wanted to borrow the money upon
“ mortgage, they might make a double
“ ble

“ble advantage of it through Mr.

“——.

‘ From this time I resolved to associate with no men who played for more than their pastime. I was hereby frequently excluded from some of the best company; but I thought I was more than compensated for this loss, by being certain of not being cheated. However, the women frequently allured me into parties at play; but as I looked upon the money I lost with them as a present, I was never much dissatisfied with my ill luck with the ladies.’

‘ I was now sought after by persons of a different turn, who had still their own interest at the bottom of their friendship. Mrs. —— always sent me cards for her rout, and indulged

' me so far as to make a crown table,
 ' on purpose that I might not play for
 ' more than I liked. This condescen-
 ' sion plainly proved that it was not
 ' my money they immediately aimed
 ' at—though I soon after discovered
 ' that Miss Betsey, her youngest daugh-
 ' ter, had formed pretensions upon my
 ' fortune in quality of my wife.

' The match was proposed, and I
 ' was to give an answer in a fortnight.
 ' The time elapsed without any eclai-
 ' rissement on my part—I received no
 ' more cards for the rout—the crown
 ' table was knocked o' the head, and
 ' I was declared a poor weak man,
 ' that could not muster up resolution
 ' to declare my sentiments, but kept
 ' girls dangling with my addresses 'till
 ' they lost more favourable opportuni-
 ' ties :

‘ties : whereas I had never thought
‘of Betsey as a wife; or ever said a
‘civil thing to her as a mistress.’

‘From these hands I was played
‘into those of a professed matchmaker.
‘Lady —— rallied me upon my
‘shyness to the sex ; telling me
‘my family, person, and fortune
‘might command any heiress in Eng-
‘land—that I should consider how
‘necessary it was to marry in time,
‘and insure heirs to so fine an estate.
‘I agreed to the greatest part of what
‘she said ; and she hinted to me,
‘she had a young lady in her eye that
‘would suit me to a tittle—a forty
‘thousand pounder; seventeen, hand-
‘some, well bred, and of a good
‘family: the bait was alluring, and
‘I was introduced.—The girl was
‘handsome ; she was genteel, and she

‘ she was well behaved—The match
‘ went swimmingly on, and the day
‘ was appointed for the nuptials—
‘ Unfortunately I enquired after
‘ the rent roll, and none could be
‘ produced—one was prepared the
‘ next day, but there was no such
‘ estate.

‘ Here then terminated my wed-
‘ ding.— Lady — was fifty pounds
‘ out of pocket for cloaths and trinkets,
‘ which she had furnished my intended
‘ spouse, and for which she was to re-
‘ ceive five hundred pounds, the pro-
‘ duce of her pin money.

‘ Soon after I was at Richmond
‘ assembly, where was the aimable
‘ Miss L——: I was introduced to
‘ dance with her, and every time I
‘ touched her hand, it conveyed fresh
‘ sensation

‘ sensation to my heart—through a
‘ kind of natural impulse, I squeezed
‘ it, and she seemed not dissatisfied.
‘ Such encouragement prompted me
‘ to be polite the next day, and I en-
‘ quired after her health—I break-
‘ fasted with her, and the charms of
‘ the night before (which I thought
‘ might be partly attributed to candle-
‘ light) were still greater in the blaze
‘ of day.

‘ I thought to have opened my
‘ mind to her at this interview; but
‘ my heart misgave me, and I re-
‘ tired without having made any
‘ other declaration of love, but such
‘ as a few involuntary sighs testi-
‘ fied.

‘ I wrote to her father, and in-
‘ formed him of my inclination for his
‘ daughter,

' daughter, with such propofals as I
 ' thought agreeable. He answered
 ' my letter, and feemed no wife diffa-
 ' tisfied with it ; faying, his consent
 ' would follow that of his daughter.
 ' So fair a challenge for declaring my
 ' paffion to her could not be de-
 ' clined, and I went fully refolved to
 ' unburthen my mind to the fair So-
 ' phia.

' Whilst I wrapped at the door, my
 ' heart beat time to the knocker, and
 ' afterwards to the fervant's feet who
 ' came to give me entrance ; whilst I
 ' frequently prayed within myfelf that
 ' ſhe might be out, or not vifible ; but
 ' to my infurmountable embarraffment
 ' ſhe was within, and I was conducted
 ' to her. I had forgot every one of
 ' my fet ſpeeches, which I had been
 ' repeating all the morning to get by
 ' heart ;

‘ heart ; and for the first quarter of an
‘ hour could find, in spite of all my
‘ efforts to be lively, nothing but the
‘ weather to speak of.

‘ At length, however, I thought I
‘ had recovered myself, and began one
‘ of my set speeches ; “ Madam, I
“ suppose your father has informed
“ you I took the liberty to write to
“ him.” “ No Sir, (replied the fair,
“ purposely to disconcert me) he very
“ seldom acquaints me either with
“ the receipt or the contents of
“ his letters.” “ Yes, madam, re-
“ turned I, but this related to your-
“ self.” “ I am surprized, Sir, said
“ she then, that you did not write di-
“ rectly to me, since it was cruel to
“ acquaint a third person with my
“ faults.” “ Your perfections, madam,
“ and not your faults were the sub-
“ ject

“ject of that letter.” “And how
“do you think then, Sir, my father
“would acquaint me with it, since I
“dare say he thinks me too vain al-
“ready.” “Indeed, madam, replied
“I, if so poor a conquest as me could
“increase your vanity, there might be
“reason to dread its accumulation.”
“I thought I had now given a home
“stroke; but she instead of taking
“any notice of what I said, as soon as
“the word conquest was uttered, be-
“gan to sing an Italian air, and asked
“me if I thought the Frasi superior
“to the Galli in that?”

“I answered, I was no judge
“of music, but that Frasi’s voice
“had always pleased me beyond
“Galli’s.”

“After

‘After so compleat a diversion, I
‘could not find in me any disposition
‘to rally my forces, and all the rest
‘of my troop of set-speeches were
‘immediately disbanded. A little ge-
‘neral discourse finished the visit, and
‘I retired, heartily disconcerted at my
‘first repulse.’

C H A P. IV.

Continuation of [beau T—y's adventures; containing some curious and pleasant anecdotes of his life.

‘ ENamoured as I was with the
 ‘ beautiful coquette, I was far
 ‘ from being disposed to repeat my
 ‘ visit, or renew my suit. I strolled
 ‘ with a friend to Vauxhall; where
 ‘ having given great attention to the
 ‘ women’s faces, and very little to the
 ‘ music, the celebrated Signora C-m-
 ‘ pi-ni entered; all male eyes were at
 ‘ once fixed upon her, and out of tri-
 ‘ umph my friend, who was acquaint-
 ‘ ed with her, immediately joined her.
 ‘ The common music was pretty near
 [‘ finished now; Lowe had begun the
 ‘ trio, and the horns were preparing
 ‘ for

* an after concert. We retired into a
‘ seat and partook of the best repast
‘ the gardens afforded: great spright-
‘ linefs and good-nature on the part
‘ of the lady and her companion, and
‘ a thorough disposition to be pleased on
‘ ours, gave such a relish to the con-
‘ versation, that every one seemed de-
‘ sirous to defer breaking up at three
‘ in the morning;—but the dampness
‘ of the evening putting in its plea, pre-
‘ vailed upon us to retire.

‘ This first interview with Signora,
‘ was soon after repeated, and I disco-
‘ vered she had no objection to indulg-
‘ ing her soft desires, though she was
‘ actually kept by a foreign nobleman.
‘ As a token of my regard for her, I
‘ presented her with a very elegant so-
‘ litaire, and a very handsome repeater
‘ was the mark of her esteem.

There was very little ceremony used after this, before we consummated without ecclesiastical aid ; and I now thought myself the happiest man in the world. An unlucky accident put a period to my felicity. I was in bed with Signora, when her keeper returning from a public place, where he remained late, unexpectedly visited his Dulcinea. As soon as the rap at the door notified his arrival, I made the best of the way out of the room with my cloaths in my hand, being told there was a bed ready for me in the two pair of stairs backwards, whither I accordingly repaired, and almost immediately went to sleep. When I awoke the first time, beginning to stretch myself, I found something in bed with me ; which, before I recollected, I imagined

‘ imagined was Signora ; but when
‘ I began to caress it, I found it
‘ was cold and lifeless, which terrified
‘ me so that I jumped out of bed,
‘ and in my fright tumbled from the
‘ top to the bottom of the stairs. This
‘ noise at four in the morning could
‘ not fail alarming the house, and both
‘ Signora and her love arose to know
‘ what was the cause. As soon as lights
‘ came, I was found almost speech-
‘ less in the entry, when my inhuman
‘ enamorado ordered me to be kicked
‘ into the street, and my cloaths thrown
‘ after me, passing me off for one of
‘ her domestics, whose insolence she
‘ thus chastised for disturbing the
‘ house.

‘ I sent for one of the servants the
‘ next day, to inform me of the reason
‘ of putting me into bed with a dead
‘ person ;

' person; when I was acquainted I had
 ' mistaken the room, this being that
 ' of a servant who died the day before,
 ' and was in bed; and that Signora
 ' was so disgusted at my pusillani-
 ' mity, she never would speak to me
 ' again.

' The next night at Ranelagh, she
 ' accordingly dropped the solitaire I
 ' gave her at my fact, and I returned
 ' her watch by a messenger.

' Thus terminated the most agree-
 ' able, and at the same time most ter-
 ' rific intrigue I ever had in my life,
 ' and which had nearly been pur-
 ' chased at its price.

' My next acquaintance in the fe-
 ' male world was with Miss Diamond:
 ' she was tall, well made, and hand-
 ' some;

‘some, just in her prime, at the summit of her pride and extravagance.’
‘I made some proposals for keeping her; but she with disdain refused five guineas a week, telling me, “they would not pay for her shoes.”’
‘This gave me the alarm, and I found I should only add to the number of young fellows she had ruined.’

‘The gay, the volatile Miss L——, caught my eye at Tunbridge.—I ogled, I sonneted her—she answered to both: but so complete a coquette she was, that all her responses were riddles;—there was no unravelling her meaning, and she triumphed in one’s disorder. She was already a demi-rep, and the world pronounced her easy of access; but far different I found her; after dangling with her to all public places for four months;

E 3 ; from

' from Tunbridge to Scarborough;
 ' from Scarborough to Bath, and from
 ' there to London, I was considerably
 ' out of pocket, without being a jot
 ' nearer possessing her.

' In this career I made acquaint-
 ' ance with another female, the beau-
 ' tiful Miss T——: her mamma ef-
 ' corted her to all public places, and
 ' governante-like pronounced every
 ' sentence the daughter was to utter.
 ' Miss saw through her mother's eyes,
 ' heard through her ears, thought with
 ' her head, and spoke with her tongue.
 ' Double senses and capacities were
 ' thrown away upon them, for they
 ' used but one set between them. I
 ' spoke to her of the tender passion,
 ' and her mamma chid me for men-
 ' tioning such things to them: I com-
 ' plimented her upon her eyes and
 ' her

her complexion—her mamma answered me, they did not like to be flattered to their faces. There was no making a single compliment to miss, but the mamma partook of it, whilst miss appeared quite unmoved. Such an acquaintance could not last long, it was so difficult to keep it up intelligibly; and mamma and miss took their leave of us at Bath, to meet pappa at the hot-well at Bristol.

So many compliments, and such a deal of good breeding quite disgusted me with modest women, and I returned to London fully resolved to have no further acquaintance with them. I entirely devoted myself to pleasure, without either gallantry or intrigue; but soon found by my surgeon's bills, that I should be greatly out of pocket both in cash and
con

‘ constitution by these indiscriminate
‘ amours.

‘ After a severe course of physic, to
‘ cure an obstinate disorder accumu-
‘ lated in the last campaign of love, I
‘ prudently determined to take a wo-
‘ man into keeping, and have no other
‘ amorous connections : but how vain
‘ are our resolves where the sex is con-
‘ cerned ? No sooner had I regained
‘ my strength, and began to go abroad,
‘ but all my plan was disconcerted by
‘ the most extraordinary accident that
‘ could happen.’—Here he made a
long pause, and desired a glass of
wine to recover his spirits, for relat-
ing this part of his adventures. The
reader may also profit of this inter-
vention, if he is any ways out of
breath, as we shall here put an end
to this chapter.

CHAP. V.

*The uncommon accident which happened
to beau T—y, with its consequences.
His marriage, and departure for
Paris.*

AFTER he had drank two half pint
bumpers of Champaign, which
dispelled a few involuntary sighs, he
said, 'he believed he had regained
' courage enough to take the field,'
and thus continued :

'Passing through the park one
' pleasant evening with a friend, with
' whom I was destined to Marybone-
' gardens, about the middle of the
' mall a young girl passed by me,
' whose innocent charms struck me
' in such a manner as I had never been
' sensible

' sensible of before. For some mi-
 ' nutes I remained motionless as a
 ' statue; then, without taking any
 ' kind of leave of my friend, turned
 ' and pursued the female. When I
 ' approached her, I recovered myself
 ' sufficiently to take an exact survey
 ' of her dress and appearance, which
 ' was that of a servant maid, in a clean
 ' linnen gown, without any affectation
 ' in the cock of a straw hat, which
 ' would have ill-suited her coloured
 ' handkerchief and apron.

' These externals flattered me with
 ' an easy conquest—and I addressed
 ' her with all the conviction of success
 ' of a professed rake;—but when she
 ' turned her face, my blood was anew
 ' stagnated, and she inspired me with
 ' such awful reverence, that notwith-
 ' standing the meaness of her dress, I
 ' recalled

recalled the boldness of my first
speech, and complimented her in
such terms as the most virtuous wo-
man of fashion could not have been
offended at.—She answered with all
the native innocence of a country
maid, which more enhanced her
charms.

I escorted her twice round the
park, without having yet proposed
any place of retreat: indeed I dread-
ed a frown from her, more than ever
I feared all the power of womankind
before. It now grew dark, and in
proportion as her charms became in-
visible, I gained courage. I now first
mentioned going to sit an hour, where
we might conveniently interchange
our thoughts; but she startled at the
very first hint, and it was with much
difficulty I could prevail upon her
to

to stay any longer with me. How
ever, upon condition I would say no
more with respect to going any where,
she consented to stay half an hour
longer with me. That unexpected
boon gave me more real felicity than
all the enjoyment I had ever had of
the whole sex.

This half hour was prolonged till
the park gates were shut, and she
was very uneasy to be at home. I
told her I would accompany her
there; but she seemed greatly dis-
concerted at this. I swore that if she
went to the most distant corner of
the world I would follow her, and
that no power upon earth should dis-
unite me from her. When she
found I was resolved, she consented
to my seeing her home, making great
apologies for the meaness of her
habitation,

* habitation, and the reception I should
* meet with.

‘ These apologies I looked upon as
‘ of course, imagining she might be
‘ the daughter of some decent trades-
‘ man ;—but what was my surprise at
‘ her knocking at the door of a house
‘ propt on every side, though half-
‘ fallen, in Orchard-street, Westmin-
‘ ster ?—It could be only equalled by
‘ my astonishment at the furniture and
‘ accommodations within—or at hear-
‘ ing a chairman, who had often carried
‘ me, call her sister.

‘ My ideas of her beauty and ele-
‘ gance were so magnified by my pas-
‘ sion, that I could easily have been
‘ prevailed upon to have believed her
‘ some woman of fashion in disguise ;
‘ and that even the meaness of her
F ‘ lodging

‘ lodging was an additional decep-
‘ tion.

‘ Yet when I discovered that her
‘ mother really was a waiherwoman,
‘ that she sold butter and eggs about the
‘ streets, and that her brother was a
‘ chairman—my pride was no way
‘ mortified—so compleatly had my
‘ passion surmounted it.

‘ I now imagined that bribery with the
‘ mother would effect that, which the
‘ daughter seemed so averse to consent
‘ to. With this view I sent for gin
‘ and porter to the amount of five or
‘ six shillings, and made the mother
‘ and brother compleatly drunk ; and
‘ indeed got very near so myself, not
‘ being accustomed to those liquors ;
‘ but the daughter was upon her guard,
‘ and drank nothing.

‘ They

‘ They gave me the best bed for
‘ the night, which swarmed with bugs
‘ and fleas, to the no small mortifica-
‘ tion of my flesh. The next day I
‘ took the mother aside in the absence
‘ of the brother, and offered her two
‘ hundred pounds, if she would pro-
‘ cure me her daughter. The old
‘ woman seemed greatly transported
‘ with the proposal; saying, “ I seem-
“ ed a very honest gentleman, and she
“ would dare say I would not use her
“ daughter ill; and that if I would
“ stay till night, she warranted she
“ would put me to bed to her.”

“ I now flattered myself that I had
“ nothing but penance to do in
‘ that sty for the day, to reap the
“ fruits of my labour. But when
F 2 ‘ night

‘ night came, and the mother had re-
‘ vealed the secret to her daughter, the
‘ lovely girl swooned—and I was sen-
‘ sibly touched at having been the
‘ cause of her disorder. When she
‘ came to herself, she told me in a
‘ faltering voice, “ That the autho-
“ rity of parents, however great, should
“ never force her to prostitute herself
“ for hire—that she would sooner
“ continue to earn her bread in that
“ mean, laborious, but honest way,
“ than be the mistress to an em-
“ peror.”

‘ Such noble sentiments gave me a
‘ sensible satisfaction, and I greatly
‘ sympathised in her heroism. From
‘ this moment I began to consider her
‘ misplaced by nature in that low
‘ sphere, and that she was no way re-
‘ lated to her parents by sentiment,
‘ which

‘ which is the most cementing kind-
‘ dred.

‘ When I had thus meditatively
‘ emerged her from her groveling
‘ state, and thought her equal to
‘ any woman, it is not surprising that
‘ I should consider her as fit to be my
‘ wife..

‘ However, a variety of thoughts
‘ and reflections, with all their various
‘ consequences, forced themselves up-
‘ on me—What will the world say?
‘ T—y married to an egg girl!—Silly
‘ coxcomb! How will my rivals tri-
‘ umph, and the women ridicule!
‘ Was it for this he dressed more gay
‘ than any young fellow? Shone in all
‘ public places the meteor of the men?
‘ contemned the toasts—despised the
‘ sex,

‘sex, and thought no woman fit to
‘be his wife?

‘But then my passion argued—the
‘only woman my heart was e’er ri-
‘vetted to without the charms of
‘dress, or any artful lure, compleatly
‘conquered:—plain nature and real
‘simplicity the only victors! Is it my
‘happiness, or the world’s I am to
‘study? Surely mine. Why then
‘should I hesitate!

‘Such was the conflict; but it was
‘soon over. Passion, as usual, con-
‘quered reason. I immediately told
‘her I was resolved to make her my
‘wife. She at first seemed surprized,
‘and then told me to consider what I
‘was about; how great was the dif-
‘ference between her situation and
‘mine. I told her I had considered

“it

‘ it all, and I found I could not be
‘ happy without her.

‘ A coach was now called, and I
‘ went out of her mother’s house for
‘ the first time in four days. The mo-
‘ ther and brother, (without his chair-
‘ man’s coat) my intended bride and
‘ myself, got in, and drove down Clar-
‘ ges-street to Mr. Keith’s, where we
‘ were united in holy wedlock.

‘ We consummated that night at
‘ my chambers, and we set out
‘ the next morning for Paris, for I
‘ found it was impossible to bear the
‘ ridicule of my acquaintance, who
‘ had already got some knowledge of
‘ the affair.

C H A P. VI.

Containing his journey to Paris, and adventures there, with his conduct to his wife; the manner of disposing of her, and his return to England.

WE accordingly departed early in the morning in a post chaise for Southampton, as I did not chuse to go the direct road, for fear of meeting some of my acquaintances returning from where we were bound to.

“The journey to this place was agreeable, and my wife seemed thoroughly satisfied with our intended jaunt, though she had at first testified some uneasiness at its precipitancy.”

‘ tancy. We hired a vessel to carry
‘ us to Dieppe, where we arrived four
‘ days after, in a fine country its true,
‘ but where the rusticity and barba-
‘ rous manners of the people greatly
‘ astonished us. The women did the
‘ most laborious work, such as drag-
‘ ging of carts loaded, and even serv-
‘ ing for cattle in ploughing the land.
‘ This, added to the clay cabbins they
‘ lived in, the black bread they eat,
‘ coarse clothes and wooden shoes they
‘ wore, gave us a very indifferent idea
‘ of the French in general.

‘ However, we continued our jour-
‘ ney, and arrived at Paris in a couple
‘ of days, when the splendor and mag-
‘ nificence of that metropolis, as much
‘ surprized us, as the poverty and
‘ drudgery of the provincials. We
‘ were soon accommodated with an
‘ elegant

‘ elegant hotel, and my lord Anglois,
‘ which is the common title of all Eng-
‘ lish gentlemen who reside there, was
‘ liberally bestowed upon me.

‘ We saw all the spectacles, palaces
‘ and hunts in a few days; and though
‘ little acquainted with the language,
‘ I soon found that no man of taste,
‘ or what they call honête homme,
‘ lived with his wife. I had just ac-
‘ quired a sufficient share of French
‘ gallantry to heartily despise mine,
‘ and immediately took an opera dan-
‘ cer into keeping. I complained to
‘ her of the want of taste and elegance
‘ in my wife, in telling her the faux
‘ pas I had made. She readily point-
‘ ed out to me a method of getting rid
‘ of her, which was that of shutting
‘ her up in a convent for life. The
‘ hint was not thrown away upon me,
‘ but

‘ but I resolved to pass one night with
‘ her before I entirely gave her up,
‘ which I accordingly did, and the
‘ next day she was packed off to a
‘ nunnery.

‘ I had not till then discovered that
‘ my opera dancer had played me
‘ false, and conferred a favour on me,
‘ which I could have very well
‘ dispensed with. I was in hopes,
‘ however, I had not injured my wife ;
‘ but the sequel proved the contrary.

‘ I soon after returned to England,
‘ and endeavoured to pass upon the
‘ world my marriage only as an affair
‘ of gallantry; but the secret got wind,
‘ and her relations found means to get
‘ her claimed as an English subject ;
‘ and she accordingly returned much
‘ impaired by the disorder I had given
‘ her,

‘ her, not knowing what ailed her,
‘ and taking no remedies till it was
‘ very far gone.

‘ She was greatly piqued at my be-
‘ haviour to her, and threatened to sue
‘ for a separate maintenance: how-
‘ ever, we compromised the matter,
‘ and I now allow her a couple of
‘ hundred a year for her support.

‘ This is that disagreeable story of
‘ my marriage, which has precipitated
‘ me ever since into one continued se-
‘ ries of incontinence and debauchery,
‘ to avoid reflexion, which so plainly
‘ points out to me my folly and incon-
‘ siderateness; and it has tinctured all
‘ the rest of my life with a seeming
‘ phrenzy, or absence, upon most oc-
‘ casions.

‘ The

‘ The first step I took after my re-
‘ turn to England, was to take a girl
‘ into keeping, in order to stifle, if I
‘ could, all thoughts of my wife.
‘ Charlotte H---s was the girl whom
‘ I pitched upon, without either beau-
‘ ty, wit, or elegance ; with no other
‘ recommendations but good-nature,
‘ and a disposition to please a caprici-
‘ ous man.

‘ She set the example to girls of the
‘ town to keep their chariots, and very
‘ kindly run me in debt about five
‘ hundred pounds for clothes and
‘ trinkets in less than three months.
‘ I was heartily displeased at this extra-
‘ vagance, and began to repine at my
‘ ill usage to my wife, who was
‘ so much superior to Charlotte in
‘ beauty, and who desired no other
‘ clothes than such as were cheap and
‘ decent,

G

‘ decent. But our union was dissolv-
 ‘ ed, and it was in vain lamenting.—
 ‘ I paid these first demands, but threat-
 ‘ ned to turn her off if she made such
 ‘ ample use of my credit again. My
 ‘ menaces availed nothing, and her
 ‘ bills became as enormous within
 ‘ the same period. Here then was
 ‘ my first breach with Charlotte ----;
 ‘ but she knew my foible, I could not
 ‘ see a woman I had a regard for in
 ‘ distress.---She was arrested, and I
 ‘ paid the debt.

‘ She began now to triumph over my
 ‘ weakness, and ridicule my good-na-
 ‘ ture: she piqued herself upon my being
 ‘ her dupe; and she took care to let the
 ‘ world know it. She now threw off
 ‘ all reserve, supped at the tavern with
 ‘ the man she liked, and scored the
 ‘ reckoning to my account. I had bills
 ‘ of

‘ of twenty and thirty pounds at every
‘ tavern near Covent-garden ; some of
‘ which I had not been in for months,
‘ and where I always paid ready mo-
‘ ney.

‘ This exasperated me, and I never
‘ spoke to her again. I declared per-
‘ petual war against the whole sex,
‘ and I resolved to look upon, and
‘ make use of, no woman but as a
‘ convenience.

‘ This resolution, which I persevered
‘ in for some time, was not so expensive
‘ to my pocket as my constitution :
‘ for I found women at half a crown,
‘ were just as useful as those at five
‘ guineas ; and that they could be as
‘ amply possessed at one’s chambers as
‘ at a bagnio : but I frequently found
‘ I had more than I bargained for,
G 2 ‘ which

‘ which, added to such excessive variety, would in the end terminate
‘ pretty near impotence. Yet the
‘ bait was alluring---the intrigue was
‘ cheap and sensual, two very great recommendations to me at this time,
‘ when I began to know the value of
‘ money, and discover a diminution of
‘ power.

‘ By this penurious gallantry I got
‘ the ill will of all women of any
‘ figure, either modest or whores. If
‘ I spoke to them, they told me I was
‘ not for their turn---they did not go
‘ at half a crown. ---I was satisfied,
‘ and thought it more than their worth.

‘ In a word, madam, ’till I was
‘ struck with the force of your charms,
‘ all women-kind was indifferent to
‘ me.---You know what lengths I
went

‘ went to possess you, which I could
‘ hardly effect, so that all compliments
‘ are superfluous.’

Here he ended his narrative, and after dinner his visit, being thoroughly satisfied with having made some ineffectual attempts towards enjoying Fanny, at the small price of one thousand two-hundred and seventy-five pounds.

C H A P. VII.

Fanny's journey into Yorkshire; is courted by a gentleman: a discovery who he is, with some anecdotes of him.

FANNY had now gleaned together by her new gaming schemes to the amount of between four and five thousand pounds, besides a well furnished house, and an elegant side-board of plate. The summer advanced, and the polite people retired from the metropolis; her rout was of course discontinued, and her business in London was therefore at an end. She resolved upon a retreat into the country, to relax from the toils of house-keeping, and the noise and nonsense of fops and coxcombs.

She

She had a female relation who lived reputably in Yorkshire, and it was to her house she resolved upon going. After she had passed some time there, she found in herself a great disposition for visiting the city of York; where were balls and concerts, and of course gay company. She accordingly went there, and the first night of the assembly was taken out to dance by a gentleman, handsome in his person, and genteel in his address. The next morning he came to enquire after her health, and prevailed upon her to go to the concert that night, for which he had provided himself with tickets.

The acquaintance he kept up with great assiduity, and he escorted her every where at York. He went by the name of — Davis, esq; and she began

gan to receive the compliments of the ladies upon being united to him in wedlock. To be ingenuous, she now began to entertain some thoughts of him as a husband, and he made overtures in order to arrive at that character. She avoided making any decisive answer 'till such time as she was thoroughly satisfied who he was. Her return to London now approached, and Mr. Davis, with his usual gallantry, insisted upon waiting of her, which he accordingly did. Unfortunately as he came over Hampstead-heath, he was stopt, and taken up for a highway robbery, and Fanny then discovered his history.

It appeared he was no other than the very famous Mr. Maclean, who had supported himself for four or five years in quality of a gentleman, by contributions

contributions he raised upon the road. He was peculiarly extravagant in his dress, which was rather tawdry than genteel, but which never fails to catch the eyes of the women, who have not had experience enough to form proper opinions of men. By this means every girl who danced with him at a country assembly or hop, thought herself greatly honoured by having so fine a gentleman for her partner : and if he happened to say a tender thing to her, she immediately imagined she had made a conquest of a man of considerable fortune.

He had been married ever since he was eighteen ; soon after which he set up a grocer-chandler-shop near Cavendish-square : but his ambition prompting him to cut a figure, and his shop being a great impediment to
his

his keeping good company, he sold off his stock, and spent the produce in a very short time in fortune-hunting.

The road then appeared to him the the only probable means of supporting himself, 'till such time as he could meet with a girl with money foolish enough to marry him for the sake of his fine coat. This, however, did not happen, and though he did not live with his wife, he supported her in a separate lodging. This additional expence, with his own, forced him to often turn out upon the road, and he had several narrow escapes. He in the meanwhile travelled all over England, as a man of fortune, in hopes of picking up a wife, but he could find none who suited him in point of money, and seemed disposed to approve him
him

him for her conjugal bed, 'till he paid his addresses to Fanny. He was acquainted with her late success, and knew where her money was lodged: he therefore strenuously pressed her, as well at York as upon the road, to join their hands, for fear some accident might happen, which might prevent it.---His fears were not without foundation; but her prudence was equal to his augury.

Fanny looked upon this as the most lucky escape of her whole life; for the lover signed his own confession a few days after, and put it out of the power of a jury to save him.

C H A P.

C H A P. VIII.

Fanny's great loss, and the necessity she is reduced to, with her virtuous resolution.

THE adventure at York, which terminated with so melancholy a catastrophe, greatly chagrined Fanny; and it so much affected her spirits, that she kept her house for some weeks, without seeing any company. At the end of that time, having occasion for cash, she went to the person in whose hands her money was lodged, when the house was shut up, and she was informed he became a bankrupt the week before.

Her melancholy at another's misfortunes was now changed into sorrow

ROW

row for her own. Mr. ——— was the person who had broke; he was an old neighbour of hers, passed to be very rich, and had been her particular benefactor. Before she went out of town, she waited upon him to have his opinion, being much in the alley, how she could dispose of her money to the best advantage. He told her, ' That stocks were then very high, and ' that if she bought in then, she would ' pay an extravagant premium; but ' that it was whispered in the alley ' they would soon fall; that if she ' would put the money into his hands, ' he would wait for a favourable opportunity, and make the most of her ' money.'

She had no suspicion of the deceit, and accordingly deposited all her money in his hands, except as much cash

as she thought she might want for her travelling expences. She set out for Yorkshire the same week, worth five thousand pounds, and returned two months after a beggar.

Her housekeeping creditors brought in their bills, but they remained unpaid. This was in the autumn---and all her real friends were out of town.

Great misfortunes, like great prosperity, give the mind a quite different turn from its usual course: we see things in opposite lights, and attribute our ill success to the most foreign causes. Those tinged with the least superstition immediately turn predestinarians, and believe their vices or crimes rendered their adversity inevitable. Fanny was now of this disposition, and plainly saw that riches obtained
in

in her way of life, could never be of any benefit to her.

She resolved to dispose of her goods and her plate, and live virtuous. She paid her creditors, and found but a small residue—a hundred and thirty pounds—could not support her a great while, according to her chaste plan. She began to cogitate upon some business, and considering how long she had ruled the female taste in dress, she resolved upon commencing milliner; she accordingly took a shop near the Haymarket, and laid out the greatest part of her estate in band-boxes, blonds, laces and ribbons.

Though she at first had no great business, she attributed it to the polite people's being still out of town; but she soon after found that notwithstanding

ing she could regulate the head-dresses and handkerchiefs of the ladies, as Fanny M---- the courtezan--she could not vend them as Fanny M---- the milliner.

She was counsell'd to take a French shop-woman, and put her name upon the sign. This she did, inscribing,

C A B R I O L L E,
MILLINER from PARIS.

The sign presently attracted her a great number of customers---and a constant succession of coaches at her door, pronounced madam Cabriolle a woman of the greatest business in England.

She had agreed with this shop-woman for twenty pounds a year, which was treble the sum she could have earned

earned in her own country working day and night: but when madam Cabriolle found what effect her name had upon the English ladies, she insisted upon dividing the profits with her mistress. This Fanny refused, whereupon she took a shop over against her, and Fanny had the mortification to find her shop deserted as soon as madam Cabriolle left it.

In this situation the rich Mr. H---- dropt in to bespeak some ruffles he did not want, and came four times before they were done, to press their expediting, though he would have been sorry they had been finished. He gave Fanny some tickets for the play, which she reluctantly accepted. He failed not to be at the house, and escorted her home, upon her absolutely refusing to go to a tavern to sup: she

scarce asked him to eat a bit of what was upon the table, but he eagerly fell to.

The cloth gone, with the shop-woman that accompanied her to the play, and the bottle introduced, he thought he was sure of her that night. All the stale compliments were played off upon her, without any emotion on her side. He kissed her hands, and would have hindered her lips being jealous. ---She prevented him. He swore he never met with so great a prude in his life. He now pulled out his purse, and laid fifty guineas upon the table, asking her if that would purchase a night's lodging. She replied, 'not twenty times the sum.'

Though he did not credit her assertion, he plainly saw there were little hopes

hopes of succeeding that night ; for upon his behaving any ways rude, the bell was immediately rung, and the servant was ordered to light her to bed. He therefore retired, but not without a resolution of repeating his attacks.

He wrote to her next day ; in this epistle he expostulated with her upon the frivolousness of her keeping a milliner's shop, when she might keep her equipage ; that he was ready to purchase her one, and make a proper allowance for its support.

This letter rekindled the embers of Fanny's pride, (in spite of all her superstition) which, added to the falling off of her customers in favour of her rival, staggered the virtuous plan she had now pursued for upwards of eight months.

H---

H--- renewed his solicitations, and added to the force of rhetoric that of jewels and trinkets : however, she did not surrender 'till he came in a new post chaise chariot, with her cypher upon upon it. There was a greater charm in the two letters F. M. than in all the Abracadabras that ever were wrote. She now surrendered, upon the terms of a well furnished house, and twenty pounds a week subsistence money.

C H A P. IX.

*Fanny gets again into high keeping—
has a conference with Lady H—
concerning her husband.*

Fortune is to all at some hours kind——

The lucky have whole days in which they chuse,
The unlucky have but moments, those they lose.

OUR heroine most certainly had as many opportunities of making her fortune as any woman that ever was born without one: she was, according to the poet just quoted, to be ranked among the lucky, who have whole days “to chuse;” and she seldom missed the occasion. From an obscure milliner (for such she was as soon as Mademoiselle Cabriolle left her) who could scarce gain a subsistence, we view her instantaneously—the gay,
the

the beautiful Fanny, rolling in her chariot with all the luxurious affluence of the first woman of fashion.

Her late recluse life gave the world a more favourable opinion of her morals than they before entertained of them: they concluded her principles were virtuous, whatever her conduct might indicate. She now shone in a more brilliant sphere than ever. The shortness of her intimacy with beau F——, without any certain pecuniary stipulation, prevented her making that éclat she at first proposed. During her union with Sir Richard, she had his welfare too much at heart to extravagantly dissipate his fortune: and whilst her gaming scheme was in agitation, her thoughts were more fixed upon a future support than a present luxurious life; but now she
was

was kept by a man whose fortune was thought inexhaustible ; who, though he allowed her twenty pounds a week, was at all the expence of her house-keeping besides. He dined and supped with her almost constantly, and still more constantly sent in provisions, and his wine merchant was hers.

It was now the herd of poets, painters and engravers, began to exercise their arts upon our heroine—Scarce a magazine appeared without an ode, or an acrostic upon Fanny. The portrait painters supplicated it as a favour to have her likeness—and every print-shop window presented you with Fanny in metzotinto.

Such adulation was never before paid to a woman of her rank,—and from this

this time the world pronounced her celebrated.

She was no longer looked upon in the light of a wh-re, she wore a ring, and went by H—'s name: she was toasted with modest women, and drank kneeling. It was imagined as great a piece of coxcombship to hint one had been happy with Fanny, as with the first dutchess in the land. Many men of fashion aspired at this, and as many were foiled in their attempt. Among these was the sagacious lord Minikin, the anti-Hercules.

He was so proud of making the world believe he had possessed what he had not, that it soon came to his lady's ears; and she as prudently sent for Fanny to enquire the truth of it. This interview was as extraordinary

dinary in conducting, as the cause of its taking place.

After the usual compliments, and the two females were seated: ‘My dear Fanny, (said my lady) I have sent for you to ask you a most ridiculous impertinent question! What do you think it is, Fanny?’

‘Truly my lady, said she, it will be impossible for me to divine.’

‘Why then drink your chocolate (resumed my lady) and I will tell you. It is neither about the cut of your cuff, the flounce of your petticoat, the plait of your tucker, or the cock of your hat,—subjects I have often troubled you about in writing:—It is neither more or less than to enquire, whether or no my lord Mi-

VOL. II. I ‘nikin

‘ nîkin has had an intrigue with you
‘ as he gives out?

‘ Indeed my lady, replied Fanny,
‘ the question is a little uncommon
‘ from one woman to another, but I
‘ will be very ingenuous with you in
‘ my answer.

Here my lady interrupted her, in
saying, ‘ Upon the word of a woman
‘ of fashion, it is not through jealousy
‘ I enquire—no, far from it, I assure
‘ you Fanny;—for if you knew my
‘ lord Minikin as well as I do, you
‘ would be surfeited with such tri-
‘ fling attempts—a perfect child!—
‘ why now last night—but go on
‘ Fanny, I beg pardon for interrupting
‘ you.

‘ Why

‘ Why my lady, (said Fanny) then
‘ in a few words, — yes: but I
‘ must tell you, (resumed her lady-
‘ ship) he says he is even afraid of
‘ consequences.’

Fanny at length regained the clew
of her discourse, and informed her
ladyship, there was no manner of
foundation for the first supposition, so
that all consequences must of course
be imaginary.

My lady pricked up her ears at this,
telling Fanny she thought as much,
and had told my lord, when it came
to her knowledge, ‘ that she thought
‘ herself woman enough every way
‘ for my lord Minikin, or indeed half
‘ a dozen of the Minikins.’

Fanny readily agreed to the justness of this assertion ; telling my lady, so fine a woman as her had an undoubted right to every part of a man's heart, whom she had honoured with her hand. This polite and chaste construction of what her ladyship had been saying, failed not to point out to her the indelicacy of the sentiment, and to give the discourse a quite different turn, which soon after terminated with Fanny's visit.

C H A P. X.

Proposals of marriage made to Fanny, and she rejects them: gets her sisters married. An adventure at Tunbridge, very fit to be read by all the fighting men of the age, who decide points of honour by the point of a sword.

FANNY's character was now looked upon by many so completely retrieved, that some persons of worth and fortune, who were smote with her triumphant beauty, (for the concurrent opinion of the world is more by far than woman's face) and found they could not gain her upon their proposed terms, began seriously to think of her in marriage. Nay, a certain silk mercer not far from Ludgate-hill, whose fortune and business

entitled him to a woman with ten thousand pounds, without any slur upon her character, offered her his hand in marriage. Her pride was at this juncture so pampered, that she forgot herself, and committed the greatest oversight in all her life, by absolutely refusing this advantageous match. She imagined she had charms to captivate and retain the first peer in the land, whom she had resolved within herself should not enjoy her, but upon honourable terms, though at the same time she was kept by a commoner upon his own.

We have had no occasion to mention, till now, that Fanny had two sisters, who approached womanhood; the one being about eight, the other ten years younger than Fanny. After their father and mother's death, who left them quite infants, they were for
some

some time supported by charity; but as soon as Fanny arrived at an affluence, she never forgot to think of their support. In her prosperity they were genteely supported and educated; in her adversity they were neglected and miserable. From the time of her retreat from the Old Bailey, however, she had never been so poor, but she found means to pay for their board, cloathing and schooling, so that they might be said to have been genteely brought up.

They had quitted their boarding school, and come up to London. Their sister, whom they looked upon as their mother, with respect to duty and obedience, gave them an apartment at her house in Marlborough-street, in order to have them more immediately under her eye, resolving they should
not

not follow her foot-steps in incontinence. They nevertheless appeared with her in public; not with a view of exposing them to sale as common women, but in order to get them husbands, and settle them honestly in the world.

They were neither of them equal to Fanny in beauty, though one was very genteel; but they had both a disagreeable cast with their eyes. However, she at length wedded them, one to a reputable tradesman, the other to a dancer at the play-house.

This conduct of Fanny is greatly to be commended, and in the eyes of a sound moralist would wipe away all her other vices.

Mr. H—— took her down to Tunbridge in a new Salisbury and six horses;

ses ; the splendor of her equipage, and the elegance of her dress and jewels, out-shone the most brilliant there. A remarkable incident plainly evinced how much superior Fanny was looked upon to most of the women of her class in life. Fanny was asked to cut in at Lady ——, Mrs. G—— and Mrs. D——'s table ; which, after a decent apology for her bad play, she did. Signora C-mp-ni was taken out to dance by a man of considerable fortune, and all the ladies sat down.

This opposite behaviour towards Fanny and C-p-ni, could not fail giving H—— a high opinion of his mistress's merit ; and being that night with a set of gentlemen, when after supper the bottle was briskly circulated, captain D—— gave C-mp-ni, as a modest woman, just after Mrs. P——, which

which every body objected to. However, H— gave Fanny M—— as a modest women, and no body objected to it, out of complaisance, but captain D—, who (being somewhat elevated) swore ‘that Fanny M---- was no more
‘a modest woman than C-mp-ni—
‘nay, that he would wager a hundred
‘pounds with any gentleman in com-
‘pany, that to every one man he could
‘produce who had lain with C-mp-ni;
‘he would bring fifty, if not a hun-
‘dred, that had lain with Fanny
‘M---.’

This threw H---- (who had just been so highly delighted with the regard shewn his mistress) into a violent passion, and it was with some difficulty the company prevented swords being immediately drawn; however, the next day H---- sent the captain a challenge before he was up, which
produced

produced the following letter from him.

SIR,

“ **F**ALLIBILITY is so immediately
“ connected with human nature,
“ that to pretend to divest oneself of it,
“ would be the highest pitch of pre-
“ sumption and folly. I was last night
“ drunk, and therefore might be in
“ the wrong : if the majority of the
“ company are of that opinion, I am
“ willing to make any concession that
“ a gentleman can require. I would
“ not, however, have you infer from
“ hence, that I am afraid to fight, or
“ terrified at death : neither of these
“ have any weight with me : it is the
“ cause that shocks me ; and must
“ every reasonable man with the most
“ heroic courage ; to cut one anothers
“ throats

“ throats about drinking two women’s
 “ healths, that, for ought I know,
 “ have not the least esteem for us, is
 “ not valour but madness. With re-
 “ spect to my personal bravery, I am
 “ happy in having colonel M---- and
 “ captain G---- at present here, who can
 “ testify what was my conduct at Cul-
 “ loden, as well as in Flanders, the
 “ last campaign. As I don’t intend to
 “ write my own panegyric, I shall
 “ say no more upon this head ; but
 “ desire you seriously to reflect, even
 “ if all moral and religious consider-
 “ ations are laid aside, whether it
 “ will not be more consistent with
 “ true honour, and even heroism, for
 “ him that has offended to make a
 “ proper submission, than add murder
 “ to insult ?

“ I am, &c.

“ D-----.”

H---, who had wrote the challenge before he went to bed, whilst wine and choler strongly operated to form the hero, after his first sleep, began to recollect what had past the night before, and a general tremulation seized him, when his concatenation of thought brought him down to fighting that morning with the captain, who was reckoned one of the best swordsmen, and most courageous men in England. He immediately rung the bell, to countermand the carrying of the note to the captain; but alas! he received it an hour before. This threw H--- almost into convulsions, it not being above an hour before the appointed time of meeting. He rung again to enquire what answer the captain had sent back, when he was in-

VOL. II.

K

formed

formed none ; which, with his fear, made him readily conclude the captain had accepted his challenge. Fanny was all this while very solicitous to know the cause of her lover's violent emotions, but she could gain no intelligence, 'till the servant entered with the captain's letter ; when H-- was so greatly terrified, that, before he had power to open it, he burst into tears ; blubbering, ' Ay, Fanny, ' you've been my perdition : I am going to be killed now for supporting ' your honour.' So many testimonies of fear, with the received billet, nearly pointed out to her the case, before he had thus explained himself ; and she now opened the letter and read the contents to him, with which he was so transported, that he fell into as violent a fit of laughter, as he had before of crying ; swearing the captain was the
honestest

honestest and most generous man in the world, and without waiting for a second invitation, went and compromised matters with him.

C H A P. XI.

The cause of a rupture between her and Mr. H---; he casts her off: her acquaintance with Lord ----, who introduces Mr. L--- the author: his adventure with his bookseller. Fanny's guests delineated, and the acquisition she makes in knowledge.

FANNY's pride was a good deal nettled at this submission of her lover; the more so as he thereby acquiesced with the captain in his opinion of her insignificance. His poltroonery increased her disgust, and she

could not avoid frequently testifying in what a contemptible light she held him.

It was some time before H--- discovered the source of her ridicule; but she having indiscreetly related to a female acquaintance of her's the whole morning scene of the duel, this pretended friend played her false, and made a merit of the story to H---, who was greatly pleased with her sincerity; and from that time began to behave visibly slighting to Fanny, whilst Dolly H--- (the story carrier) increased daily in her rivalry.

In a word, not many weeks elapsed before Fanny was dethroned, and Dolly proclaimed her successor. Fanny's pride was but little mortified at this revolution, as she flattered herself

self she had power sufficient to command the hearts and purses of all mankind. Indeed she was not much mistaken. She had proposals of various sorts; but her vanity ever prompted her to prefer those which were the most éclatant. Lord ---, whose poverty and simplicity keep equal time, offered to keep up her chariot and horses, and all the retinue H--- had supported for her. This she accepted.

His lordship's greatest pride was in being thought a man of letters; he had not read two volumes throughout in his life, yet his library was furnished with the best authors, bound and gilt in the most extravagant manner. From the same motive he associated with those who are esteemed men of learning. As he had a very superficial idea of knowledge, he was

could not avoid frequently testifying in what a contemptible light she held him.

It was some time before H--- discovered the source of her ridicule; but she having indiscreetly related to a female acquaintance of her's the whole morning scene of the duel, this pretended friend played her false, and made a merit of the story to H---, who was greatly pleased with her sincerity; and from that time began to behave visibly slighting to Fanny, whilst Dolly H--- (the story carrier) increased daily in her rivalry.

In a word, not many weeks elapsed before Fanny was dethroned, and Dolly proclaimed her successor. Fanny's pride was but little mortified at this revolution, as she flattered herself

self she had power sufficient to command the hearts and purses of all mankind. Indeed she was not much mistaken. She had proposals of various sorts; but her vanity ever prompted her to prefer those which were the most éclatant. Lord ---, whose poverty and simplicity keep equal time, offered to keep up her chariot and horses, and all the retinue H--- had supported for her. This she accepted.

His lordship's greatest pride was in being thought a man of letters; he had not read two volumes throughout in his life, yet his library was furnished with the best authors, bound and gilt in the most extravagant manner. From the same motive he associated with those who are esteemed men of learning. As he had a very superficial idea of knowledge, he was

frequently imposed upon with respect to those who possessed it. A smattering of Greek and Latin, a quotation from an antient writer (a propos or not) were with him thought evident proofs of a great genius. It is therefore not surprizing that doctor Wagtail and Mr. L--- should take place among his greatest intimates.

These he introduced to Fanny as two of the greatest men of the age, 'telling her she would receive both pleasure and instruction in their company.' This furnished the doctor with an opportunity of giving them the definition of the word company, which lasted near half an hour; during which time, my lord was nodding applause at the doctor's great learning, and winking to Fanny to take notice, and benefit by the discourse of so great a scholar.

As soon as the doctor had finished, (for till then there was no room for any body else to speak) Mr. L--- began to apologize for his dress, by saying, the most uncommon accident in the world had thrown him into that pickle, (his face, hands, and coat being all over mud) and that nothing but his lordship's irrevocable commands could have induced him to appear thus before so fair a shrine.

Every one instantly pressed Mr. L--- to inform them of the cause of his misfortune, when he gave the following account of it.

' Mr. ---- in Paternoster-row published my last pamphlet but one, ' and I have been after him these three ' weeks, and could have no account ' of the number sold ; I at length got ' him

‘ him to day to shew me the remain-
 ‘ der, when he pretended there were
 ‘ a hundred and fifty out upon return,
 ‘ but I insisted upon being paid, as I
 ‘ had told him not to let any go out
 ‘ upon those terms; whereupon words
 ‘ ensued, he flew into a violent passion,
 ‘ threw my pamphlets into the street;
 ‘ I then was obliged to pick them up
 ‘ out of the dirt, and calling a coach
 ‘ put them all in, and ordered the
 ‘ man to drive to Mr. ———’s in the
 ‘ Strand, where I proposed depositing
 ‘ them for sale; but unfortunately
 ‘ just as I came to Temple-bar, the
 ‘ coach broke down, and my pam-
 ‘ phlets once more visited the chan-
 ‘ nel. The mob a second time sur-
 ‘ rounded me whilst I was endeavour-
 ‘ ing to collect my works, the man
 ‘ insisting upon his fare, before he would
 ‘ let me take up one, and I having
 ‘ no

‘ no money in my pocket, could not
‘ satisfy him; a quarrel ensued, whilst
‘ the mob were making off with my
‘ productions: a green-woman run-
‘ ning this way with half a dozen
‘ Treatises on Plants and Vegetables;
‘ a drayman that, with a quartern of
‘ Philosophical Enquiries upon broad
‘ Wheels; and a porter took all my
‘ Letters to a Great Man. In this di-
‘ lemma carts and coaches passing
‘ over the small remainder of my for-
‘ tune, which I would now gladly
‘ have disposed of for waste paper, I
‘ bethought myself to take up Fifty
‘ Six Millions raised for the use of
‘ the Government without Difficulty,
‘ which I pawned with Mr. B— the
‘ bookseller for half a crown.’ Such
‘ was the affecting, dirty adventure of
‘ Mr. L----, and such the guests at
‘ Fanny’s repasts.

The

The common topics at her table were now, 'how many editions such a book had gone through: what the author had got by it: when was the time for trumping up a pamphlet: such a title would sell five hundred.' So that in a short time Fanny was initiated into the whole art and mystery of a booksmith; and she failed not to turn it to her advantage among her less learned acquaintance, who looked upon her as a woman of great learning and penetration.

Mr. L--- introduced to her one day a Reviewer, informing her beforehand that he was a person of great power, Mr. G---s's right hand; that there was not an author from my Lord ----, down to the writer of the bellman's verses, but paid his court to him: he
had

had it in his power to make a man's fortune whenever he would : it was only to praise a few of his productions in the M-thly R---w, and they would go through ten editions ; whereas if he gave them a bad character, they would not pay for printing.

So extraordinary a character failed not to excite Fanny's curiosity ; and she paid her court to him as if she had been as much dependant on him as Mr. L---. However, she was recompenced with the acquaintance of some literary secrets, that were the substance of a very curious dialogue ; which we think our readers will not be displeased to find in the following chapter.

CHAP.

C H A P. XII.

Containing a dialogue, wherein the whole arcanum of modern criticism is revealed, or Reviewing made easy to the meanest capacity. With a specimen of his Lordship's learning, and the price of fulsome dedications.

Rev. **M**R. L—, I am going into the country for a few months, and I have thought of you as the properest person for supplying my place in Mr. G—s's Re---w. I have already mentioned you to him in a very favourable light, and I dare say he will approve of you.

L. Sir, you do me a great honour, if you think I am capable of the task.

Rev.

Rev. Oh! Sir, you want compliments; much inferior talents to yours would be sufficient for so trifling a performance.

L. Trifling a performance, Sir! Why does it not comprehend the whole Cyclopaedia? Should I not be a thorough master of all the sciences, to pretend criticising upon all works that treated of them?

Rev. Ah! ah! You make me laugh indeed.—Master of all the sciences! where will you find him forsooth?

L. A perfect master I don't mean, but such a one as is sufficiently conversant with them, so as to be a competent judge of all books, in the various branches of literature, or at least of

such as he confines his criticism to, supposing a sufficient number of Reviewers to divide the provinces.

Rev. Pshaw, pshaw, Mrs. G—s is the best Reviewer of us all ; and she knows no more of the sciences than you do of binding of books.

L. But how can she form a judgment of the merit of productions ?

Rev. By their title pages, and the booksellers they are printed for.

L. What, Sir, don't you read them ?

Rev. No—I think not—that would be fine drudgery indeed !—without we make extracts. Then we are sometimes obliged to read as much as we fill up with.

L. Don't

L. Don't you read the preface, Sir?

Rev. No, prefaces are useless things; authors themselves own it.

L. What think you of reading the index?

Rev. You may, if you have time, but it is frequently labour lost.

L. But how do you do then to quote passages of a work, in order to ridicule it?

Rev. Why, that is only when a work has a great reputation, but printed for a wrong bookseller (one that is not concerned with us) and in that case we run over a chapter or two, to find out, if we can, any slip of the author; but in case we don't very readily, it is but

quoting the best passage in the book, and leaving out a few words, sometimes only one, to make it not only bad English, but downright nonsense. If we are detected, and it makes a stir, it is only imputing it to an error of the press, and clapping it in the errata the next month.

L. If that is the case indeed, I believe I may be as good a Reviewer as the best of you.

R. As to novels, (as very few good ones are published, and hardly any for the booksellers interested in this work) we damn them in the lump.

L. Indeed!

Rev. And with respect to pamphlets, printed for wrong publishers, we have
a set

a set of characters which we use promiscuously: such as, ‘ All title page—
‘ A catchpenny—Grubstreet —Trash
‘ —Contains nothing to the purpose, &c. &c.

L. Happy inventions! why this must greatly facilitate the art of criticism.

Rev. We have lately had a consultation of all the parties concerned in this work; from Mr. G——s down to the printer’s devil; and thinking we can render it more beneficial to ourselves by being less severe upon our brother writers, we have resolved to let those whose pockets or works can afford, and chuse paying for a good character in our R——w, have it.

L. What may the terms be?

Rev. Why, they are these. [Pulling out a piece of paper]

A volume octavo, with recom-	1.	s.	d.
mendatory notes ———	2	2	0
A couple of vols. 12mo —	2	2	0
In the monthly catalogue, fa-			
vourably mentioned —	1	1	0
A two shilling pamphlet with			
notes ——— —	1	16	0
In the monthly catalogue —	1	5	0
A shilling pamphlet, with			
abstracts of the best pas-			
sages ——— —	1	10	0
In the monthly catalogue —	1	1	0

N.B. As a fixpenny pamphlet cannot afford to pay its fee, which should be 15s. without the author deposits the money

money beforehand, it must be irretrievably damned.—Hush money (for passing over any very paultry production) in proportion.

This was my thought, Mr. L—, and I flatter myself we shall find this scheme answer our most sanguine wishes.

L. It promises very fair, considering the great number of writers we now have, whose vanity will prompt them to have their reputations handed down to posterity in the annals of literature. *

Fanny's curiosity was by this time thoroughly satisfied ; and being disgusted at this disingenuous conduct of

* At the time this dialogue occurred, there was no other than Mr. G——'s Review extant ; but the Critical Review has since appeared, with less judgment and impartiality, and greater scurrility than even the Monthly Review.

her

her learned guests, she abruptly changed the topic of conversation; when Mr. L—— presented her with a copy of verses he had made that morning upon the force of her irresistible charms. My lord entered by this time, having been at a sale of books, and bought several hundred volumes to increase his library. Among others he had bought all Virgil's operas, which he proposed having translated, and adapted to the English stage, as he was told they were much superior to any of the Italian ones.

The learned sycophants (who proposed to themselves no other advantage from his conversation, than what they could get by him) let him remain in his ignorance, by applauding his taste for literature, and his great judgment of writers and books. ‘Aye, aye, (said my

‘ my lord) I think I have not read and
‘ collected for so many years, without
‘ having formed something of a true
‘ taste.’

Mr. L—— published a collection of poems the next week, wherein were several odes upon Miss Fanny ; and this piece he dedicated to my lord, who was necessitated to pledge part of his sideboard of plate to raise twenty pounds, as a gratuity to the author ; nor can any one think the money thrown away, when the following passage of this elegant dedication cannot be estimated at less than a hundred guineas.

“ I have had the presumption to cast
“ this imperfect piece at your lord-
“ ship’s feet, though conscious of its
“ defects ; well knowing that though
“ so

“ so penetrating an eye as that of so
“ great and learned a critic as your
“ lordship, would perceive all its de-
“ fects ; it would at the same time dis-
“ cover all its beauties. It is from a
“ thorough conviction of your lord-
“ ship’s universally allowed great and
“ extraordinary literary talents, that I
“ have taken the liberty of prefixing
“ your name to this book, as it must
“ be a certain bulwark to all the fu-
“ tile attacks of pseudo critics.”

Here was a profusion of knowledge, learning, talents and criticism heaped upon his lordship’s head, which he thought himself very well able to bear, and purchased at the small price of twenty pounds, without any other trouble whatever than that of pawning his plate.

C H A P. XIII.

*My lord does not fulfil his promise,
whereupon Fanny breaks with him.
Her acquaintance with colonel G——,
with whom she goes over to Holland,
and her adventures at Amsterdam,
and the Hague.*

SINCE the commencement of Fanny's acquaintance with my lord ——, she had kept open table for all the literati in his retinue, and she had received but fifty guineas from him; though it was three months since he took and entered upon the premises. She was therefore obliged to give him some inuendos that she had great occasion for cash, and that she should be glad he would acquit his arrears with her. However, he put her
off

off from time to time for a month, without her receiving any more money from him; when she very frankly told him, without he would fulfil his promise, it would be impossible for her to be his humble servant any longer. Words still supplied the place of money, and she abided by her resolution.

Her intimacy with my lord had been an expensive piece of parade to her, for her coachmaker, tradesmen, and servants, would not take my lord's word for the payment of her debts, and she found herself considerably involved. She had very little cash left, and did not chuse to dispose of her jewels and plate, knowing them to be expensive purchases and cheap sales.

At this juncture she entered into a bedchamber partnership with colonel
G——;

G——; not so much through an avaricious disposition, as because he was greatly the gentleman, had seen much of the world, and she had a penchant for him. He had little more than his pay to live upon; so that she could form but very small designs upon his pocket. Nevertheless her creditors harrassed her, and began now to threaten: to avoid the consequences of their ill-nature, the colonel and she resolved to make a tour to Holland.

Her house was accordingly shut up as soon as she arrived at Harwich, and her creditors lost all hopes of ever seeing their money.

When she came to Amsterdam, she was handsomely regaled with pickled herrings and bohea tea. The same night she went to the play, where Ot-

way's Orphan translated into Dutch, was represented by a set of great tragedians. Castalia was dressed in a greasy great coat, Dutch long breeches, and a plume of feathers upon his head. The contortions of his body, and the vehemence of his speech, made her fear he would start a vein: however, he got through his part without any other accident than forcing the string of his breeches behind, whereby they fell about his heels; but, regardless of the accident, he went through all the love scene, without any ways disconcerting Monimia, or the audience, at the sight.

Fanny had near made a conquest of a burgomaster, who wrote her a letter the next day, which, translated into English, runs pretty nearly thus.

MADAM,

MADAM,

“ I Know not whether you are freight-
“ ed by any other proprietor, as I
“ took the person last night with you
“ to be only your pilot. But if you
“ have not broke bulk yet, and are
“ clean from the stocks, I am ready to
“ bid for you upon a fair sale. I see
“ you are rather square sterned, and
“ somewhat Dutch built, for which I
“ like you the better; though I am
“ afraid you are not sufficient burthen
“ for me; but a few tons more or less
“ will make no difference if you are
“ tight rigged, and well ballasted in your
“ hold. I should be glad to know to
“ whom your cargo is consigned here;
“ if upon any good house, I will give
“ the market price, and pay all charges
“ at night.

“ An answer to this the first opportunity, will be agreeable to

N. VAN ——— and Co.

Fanny, who was unacquainted with Dutch, desired the colonel to translate this curious epistle, which he accordingly did, but rendered it very little more intelligible to her in English than in the original. She however, with some attention, arrived at the right construction of this letter, being informed they always made love in the mercantile way, and measured beauty by the ton.

She made no answer to this polite burgomaster, but set out for the Hague, in expectation of finding the court somewhat more polished than the principal city of the United Provinces; nor were

were her expectations disappointed. Travellers are charmed with the situation and disposition of this place, even after they have seen the magnificence of Italy ; well might she be, who had not viewed them. On one side you are conducted to the sea by a way worthy the grandeur of the ancient Romans. On the other, you enter the most agreeable wood imaginable, interspersed with houses sufficient to form a great and superb city ; but the trees and alleys pronounce it a delicious solitude. At particular times is seen all the innocence of rural pastimes, with the diversions of most populous cities. The houses are freer of access than in France, at those hours destined for society ; and more reserved than in Italy, when a too rigid regularity withdraws strangers, and renews domestic strict-

ness. To this may be attributed that national prudery, which serves as a traditional continence from mother to daughter. The women are not unso-
ciable: but then they have their hours of gaiety, and a smile after a particular minute is a crime, which before it was criminal to have omitted.

Notwithstanding the agreeable situation of the place, these ridiculous customs ill suited Fanny's free disposition; and the colonel being obliged to return to England, she resolved to follow him, as soon as she could accommodate her affairs with her creditors.

In the mean while (during the absence of the colonel, who had passed for her brother) she was courted by a young gentleman of good family, and
their

heir to a great fortune at the Hague. He was so entirely subdued with her charms, that he immediately declared he could not think of an happy hour without her, and that as perhaps his guardian and friends would not consent to his marriage, he proposed going over to England in order to have the ceremony performed. She was not averse to these proposals, but nevertheless did not fail to play off all the artillery of female prudery, before she surrendered.

As it was resolved they should be married as soon as ever they arrived at Harwich, she was entirely divested of all fear about her creditors, upon her return. Accordingly he mustered up all the cash he could, and remitted it to England, and they set out for Helvoetsluys,

flays, in order to go on board the packet.

The wind detained them here for three days; during which time his friends were apprized of his precipitate retreat, and after Fanny had got on board, he was seized and carried back to the Hague. The packet sailed without him, to the great consternation of Fanny, who now expected no husband upon her return to London, to cloak her from her creditors.

C H A P. XIV.

Fanny's acquaintance with an Italian singer in the packet-boat—his stratagem to screen her from her creditors. She wears men's cloaths, and passes for an eunuch. Her interview with Miss ——; and her intrigue with Lady —— in that capacity.

W H E N all hopes of Fanny's Dutch husband were gone, she devoted herself to despair; and notwithstanding a violent storm arose as soon as they were out of the harbour, it had no effect upon Fanny, who rather wished for the wreck of the ship than its safety.

When

When the winds abated, and every countenance was serene, except our heroine's, all eyes were then upon Fanny; the captain and passengers enquiring why she should be frightened after the storm was over, grief was so entirely possessed of her, that she gave not the least attention to what they said: however, an Italian who was on board the packet, and waited till the others were retired, prevailed upon her to inform him of the cause of her grief, telling her in Italian (which she spoke very well) ' that such bright eyes as those had sufficient power of dissolution, without that moisture that now flowed from them; but to lay all tender thoughts aside for the present, if she would acquaint him with the cause of her grief, and it were

‘ were any wife in his power to assist
‘ her, she had such an ascendant over
‘ him, that she might command him
‘ and all he was possessed of.’ So frank
a declaration for the first could not
fail tickling her ears in her present si-
tuation. She accordingly told him the
story of her Hague lover, which he
heard with great attention, owning
that it was very mortifying; but that
there was nothing so desperate in that
event as to make her inconsolable;
that it was true she had lost an advan-
tageous match, but that she might
gain another as good. ‘ Yes, replied
‘ Fanny, but this is not all; if I return
‘ to London without a husband, I
‘ shall be arrested for debt.’ He en-
quired how much her debts were, and
she telling him about six hundred
pounds, he replied, he was very sorry
they

they were not within the compass of the cash he could command ; but that some stratagem might be devised to evade her creditors, 'till such time as she could raise the money to pay them, or make them compound for the debts.

By this time the packet-boat arrived at Harwich, which interrupted their discourse for the present : but after they had got to the inn, having ordered a separate room from the rest of the company, it was resumed. The Italian then told Fanny that he was a singer, and was come over to be engaged at the opera for the ensuing season, and that there were also expected two eunuchs from Paris ; but that they would not come till the month of November * ; so that she might personate

* This was in May.

either of those she chose till then. That signor —— was much about her height. To this he added his cloaths, which with very little alteration would fit her, were entirely at her service.

Fanny was at first apprehensive that she was not sufficiently mistress of the Italian tongue to attempt a project of this nature; but he assuring her the English, to whom she need only conceal herself, would not be able to discover her, she agreed to have a suit of his cloaths immediately altered, whilst they remained at Harwich, with which she came up to London.

They took lodgings in the Haymarket, and the papers announced their arrival, as the two first opera singers of the ensuing season. She had im-

VOL. II. N immediately

mediately several rich suits of cloaths made, and appeared in public, without any one discovering the deceit. Nay, she frequently passed some of her creditors, who noticed her for a foreigner that had not yet got into the English way.

It was not long before the eyes of many ladies of the first fashion, who pique themselves upon the appearance of chastity, and look upon it as the sum total of all virtues, were fixed upon Fanny as a handsome fellow, with whom they might pass an agreeable hour. She had invitations on every hand, and she as readily accepted them. She always had a violent cold, where there were real judges of singing and music; but at her tête à tête parties she threw off all reserve in this respect.

respect. She soon perceived that the subject of these interviews were misconstrued by her, and that though she generally received a handsome present for her vocal company, there were hints thrown out of a more amorous nature. She readily conclude this would be the rock she should split upon, in case she gave into the designs of the ladies ; and yet some of their overtures were so plain, that it was almost impossible to be ignorant of their meaning.

She communicated her fear to signor —— her companion, who advised her to favour the ladies desires as far as she could ; and that without they actually ravished her, she need never come to an explanation. This then she resolved upon, and a few days after she had a card for Miss ——'s levee. She accordingly

cordingly went and found her in bed. Miss —— immediately arose, and in dressing herself, did not fail to display such charms as would have given the vigour of twenty to the decrepid impotence of eighty.—— Still Fanny remained unmoved.— ‘ Signor, says Miss ——, how happy is your state, who coolly can view, what, without enjoyment, would make a wretch of any other man!’

Fanny was confounded, yet in blushing she eagerly kissed her. Miss —— clung to her lips, and gave such testimonies of amorous desire as frightened Fanny, who now thought a discovery was inevitable. Miss then threw herself into the most engaging posture, when, fortunately for Fanny, the servant entered, to inform his lady my lord —— was below to wait upon her.

Miss

Miss —— would have been invisible to his lordship, but he was already at the door.

This lucky escape made Fanny resolve to never more have a premeditated tête a tête with a female in quality of signor ——; and having an invitation the next day from lord ——, to pass a week at his seat at ****, she readily accepted the offer. She had not been here two days, before his sister came down, who was reckoned the greatest devotee of the age. She went constantly twice a day to church, never conversed with any men but relations and ecclesiastics, to whom she gave half her dower for charitable uses, and she still wore her widow's weeds for her late husband, who had been dead upwards of six years.

Fanny was charmed to hear this character of my lord's sister, as she was thereby released from all apprehensions of an attack from that quarter upon her male chastity. However, the next night Fanny had not been in bed above an hour, before she heard her chamber door open, and somebody came in, whom she imagined at first was one of the servants come to bring her something she might want in the morning: but when the bed curtain was undrawn, and the intruder got into bed without saying a syllable. She then imagined a design upon her person. What was her astonishment at hearing my lady express herself in these words! 'Dear
' signor, be not surpris'd that the power
' of your charms have made a poor
' weak woman swerve from the path
' of virtue, to clasp you in my arms.'

The

The words were not out of her mouth before she fulfilled her errand literally. Fanny was greatly terrified, and knew not for some time how to evade her further attacks ; however, she at length bethought herself to tell her ladyship, ‘ She was extremely sorry she had taken her at such a nonplus, as she could not in honor consent, having a certain disorder upon her, which was infectious.’ Her ladyship replied, ‘ That all the disorders in the world were but flea-bites compared to the enjoyment of so fine a creature, and begged her to no longer dally with her passion.’ Fanny still refused : when my lady, eager to possess, made such discovery as caused them both to jump out of bed at the same instant. My lady blubbered, and cried she was undone ; but Fanny protesting she would

would keep her ladyship's secret, if on her part she would keep that relating to her sex. This was agreed, and both returned to their respective beds, much displeased with the cause of their quitting them.

My lady and Fanny were both very honourable so long as they remained in the country: upon the latter's return, she was acquainted, that the real signor —, whom she personated, was in Holland upon the point of passing over to England. This threw her into greater confusion than the discovery at my lord's, as it would be impossible any longer to support her disguise.

C H A P. XV.

Fanny compounds with her creditors, and resumes her female appearance. Sir ——'s intimacy and terms: get acquainted with the famous captain S—: the erroneous opinion of supporting his grandeur rectified.

FANNY now found herself necessitated to throw off the remaining appearances of virility attached to eunuchism, and once more resume an entire gender. But before she executed this natural metamorphose, she prudently resolved to endeavour compromising her debts with her creditors. Had she personally appeared in the affair, she must either have paid the whole demands, or went to jail.

She

She therefore made enquiry for a subtle limb of the law, who was employed to buy up bad debts; and he soon ingratiated himself so well with her principal creditors, that they revealed their greatest secrets to him, and some even employed him. At a meeting of three or four, they were lamenting the great losses they had sustained by lord —— and Fanny M——; enquiring where the latter was, she had so long disappeared. The attorney took this opportunity of acquainting them, he knew a gentleman that had correspondence at Venice, who received a letter the week before, wherein it was mentioned Fanny M—— had been there some time, and was in keeping by a foreign prince. The tradesmen readily concluded, with some deep sighs, that all hopes

hopes of their money were gone now ; enquiring however, if there was no way of recovering it. The limb answered, ‘ to be sure they could not arrest my lord, and as to her, there was no coming at her : but if they preferred losing a part to the whole, he believed he knew a gentleman who would lay them down some ready money for their bad debts ; that he was a mighty silly man that way, and had to his knowledge, lost above a thousand pounds within three months.’

The brows of the dupes began to clear, and the attorney was commissioned to wait upon the gentleman (as he never appeared in these affairs himself) with their bills, to know what he would give for their respective demands. The limb met them by appointment

pointment a few days after, when he acquainted them, ‘ the gentleman had
‘ but a very poor opinion of the debts;
‘ that it was true, they appeared very
‘ legal, but as the lady was so far off,
‘ and might not return these twenty
‘ years, he saw very little hopes of ever
‘ getting the money.’ ‘ What, did he
‘ offer no terms?’ they all cried in one
voice. ‘ Why, yes, he replied, such as
‘ are scarce worth accepting ; and yet,
‘ in my opinion, more than the debts
‘ will ever produce. He offered five
‘ per cent. for them.’

In a word, the attorney pleaded so much against Fanny, that he paid all her debts, amounting to near six hundred pounds, for less than sixty. A few weeks after, the papers informed the world that Miss Fanny M—— was
returned

returned from the tour of Europe, and she re-appeared as herself.

She was now possessed of very little cash, but she still retained her cloaths, jewels, and plate. She took lodgings in St. James's-street, and appeared with great éclat. The men renewed their addresses to her, and courted her in public as much as ever; yet six weeks elapsed without one tolerable offer being made her; and money falling very short, she at length took up with Sir ——, and five guineas a week.

He had no passions to gratify, but she had extravagancies to indulge; he was as well pleased with kissing her slipper, as kissing herself. There was no danger of hurting her constitution by him; but a scarcity of birch was to be dreaded.

With such a lover it is not surprising the handsome captain S—— should find admittance in her tender moments. His figure might command any woman, his appearance was beyond it. The world has been too censorious in ascribing the means of supporting it, and a short history of the man will clearly point out whether he deserved it.

His father was a gentleman, an officer, and a person of some fortune. S—— was extravagantly brought up, as darlings generally are, and was the fine gentleman, and the coxcomb, whilst he was yet a stripling. His dress and person flattered the girls, and his intrigues, which might easily fill a volume, were the general topics of conversation: nevertheless, he found no difficulty in
marrying

marrying an heiress, whom he ill used; and her guardian, to prevent the repetition, arrested him for her board. His own relations, who had been acquainted with his extravagancies, were not sorry at his receiving this check, and he remained in prison upwards of two years, from whence he was at length released, upon condition of his going to sea. At his return, his friends purchased him a commission, and his good behaviour induced them to pay a sum of money for exchanging it for that of an ensign in the guards. Now it was all his ambition, extravagance and vanity broke out anew: they had long lain dormant under his misfortunes, and the hardships he had endured; but, like ill-extinguished embers, receiving fresh fuel, they burst into the most rapid flame. The most gorgeous apparel, elegant equipage,

and retinue, struck at once all with surprize.——Who is he?—what fortune?—an ensign;—none,—were the only questions and answers in public. The Male-Gunning, for so he was called, was for two years the only object of the public's attention. The first women of fashion were happy in his company, and lolled upon his arm in every public place, to make the world believe they were still more happy in private; and the world indulged them in their vanity.

Half the young fellows in town were gorged with envy at his felicity; and they had no other way to vent their spleen, but by attributing the means of supporting his extravagance, to the most infamous of all practices —The ill-natured world, eager to swallow every gust of scandal, readily believed

lieved it. What every body says must be true, and though no proof or corroborating circumstances can be produced, he is condemned upon bare hearsay.

It were easy to account for two years transient grandeur, when a taylor is a creditor of nine hundred pounds, a jeweller three hundred, and other tradesmen in proportion. To put the matter out of dispute, he was necessitated to borrow forty pounds of Fanny, quarrelled with her because she would not lend him more, and suffered himself to be arrested for that sum before he could pay it.

C H A P. XVI.

*Breaks her alliance with the knight,
—— goes into Wales, meets Sir Richard, who brings her up to town;
his unexpected death, when they were
upon the point of making the tour of
Europe by sea.*

THE small pittance that Sir
—— allowed her, was not
sufficient to support her in the manner
she lived; which induced her to make
several representations to him to in-
crease it, but all were ineffectual. Her
pride would not let her submit to
diminish her retinue in town, which
made her resolve upon a journey into
Wales, where she proposed living
cheap during the summer, 'till she had
an opportunity of reaping the advan-
tages

tages she proposed to herself from her splendor in London.

She accordingly set out in a post chaise, without any servant, having dismissed all her domestics, and hired an elevated room for the deposit of her goods and effects. The journey was pleasant, and nothing remarkable happened the first day; the next, whilst she was at dinner at the post-house at ———, a post chaise and six, with two servants, came into the inn yard, which excited her curiosity to look out, when, to her great surprise, she beheld Sir Richard ——— alight. Hearing the window open he looked up, and perceiving Fanny, without staying to give any orders, he run up to her room, and as soon as he had opened the door, flew and embraced

braced her with the greatest fondness.

A scene of love and amity ensued, as none but those who feel similar sensations upon such an occasion can imagine, and which no pen, however great, can attempt to describe. Tears mingled with their kisses, and caresses interrupted sighs. Few words sufficed to express their meaning; their looks, their gestures, and their throbbing hearts well testified their sentiments.

The waiter's abrupt entry with the dinner put an end to this sentimental, though un verbal dialogue. Fanny's adventures since she had seen Sir Richard, furnished an agreeable recital to one who had so great an esteem for her as him. He in return acquainted her

her with what had happened to him during that period.

‘ My dear Fanny, said he, did you
‘ but know how your refusal of seeing
‘ me, when I waited upon you that
‘ evening, affected me, you would,
‘ out of pure compassion, have coun-
‘ termanded your orders. I returned
‘ home, and was so chagrined I kept
‘ my bed a week. At the end of that
‘ time I proved to have the small-pox,
‘ and was for several days given over
‘ by my doctors; however, at length
‘ my youth and good constitution
‘ surmounted the disorder, and I re-
‘ covered; but not without some visi-
‘ ble alteration in my face, as you per-
‘ ceive. The perfidious Charlotte was
‘ not contented to squander away in
‘ the mean while upwards of five hun-
‘ dred pounds, but the first night we
‘ laid

‘ laid together, she favoured me with
‘ such a present, that I was confined
‘ to my chamber three weeks longer.
‘ The infection of the disorder was
‘ very great, and my constitution very
‘ weak; so that taking the proper
‘ remedies for a cure, once more
‘ endangered my life. As soon as I
‘ was able to go abroad, I was coun-
‘ selled to retire into the country for
‘ the benefit of the air, where I re-
‘ mained upwards of three months.
‘ At the end of that time, I came to
‘ town, and enquired every where
‘ after you, having first disbanded the
‘ ungrateful Charlotte, as an intro-
‘ ductory sacrifice to yourself; but I
‘ could gain no intelligence of you for
‘ a long time, and was at last inform-
‘ ed you was in Italy, where I re-
‘ solved to go meet you, and had, with
‘ this

‘ this view, saved a thousand pounds;
‘ but unfortunately I lost all my money
‘ at the King’s Arms the night be-
‘ fore I proposed setting out. I have
‘ been down to Wales, to dispose
‘ of a little estate, in order to raise,
‘ once more, a sufficiency to carry me
‘ to you, but I have fortunately met
‘ you here, where I least expected
‘ to find you.’

Such esteem and regard as were expressed throughout this conversation for Fanny, could not fail re-kindling in her all her former sentiments of love and gratitude for Sir Richard, and they mutually swore, never more to leave one another.

This fond pair came up to London, and once more lived together upon the same terms, and as happily as they

they had done before. Fanny laid aside all the extravagance, as the world knew it was at her option.—A plain sedan, and one footman, composed all her retinue. Nevertheless the women could not help envying her, and the men were yet jealous of Sir Richard's good fortune.

The tour of Europe, which she had once made in the public papers, and her creditors imagination, was now in reality proposed to her by the knight. A party was made of a dozen men of fortune, every one of whom kept their women. They were to go by sea to Genoa, and had with this view purchased a fine sloop, which was elegantly ornamented, and rendered every way convenient, a doctor, surgeon, and apothecary were appointed; all the necessary

necessary provisions were laid in; their cloaths were sent on board, and the day was appointed for their going down to Gravesend,——when unfortunately Sir Richard fell ill of a violent fever, which carried him off in three days.

Fanny was too busy in attending upon him, which she did without ever going to rest, to think of her own interest. Since the renewal of their friendship, he had promised to make a provision for her life; but this sudden illness, and as sudden death, prevented his fulfilling his intent. He made no will, and every thing devolved to the next heir.

Fanny's sincere friendship and attachment for him, were clearly evinc-

ed by the unfeigned sorrow she expressed at his death. The external parade of mourning conveyed a very inadequate idea of her inward feeling. She shut herself from the world for some weeks, and it was with great difficulty she was persuaded to quit her solitude.

CHAP.

C H A P. XVII.

Fanny turns prude, and lives in the city. — A rich quaker pays his addresses to her, endeavours to make a convert of her, and is upon the point of marrying him, when he discovers who she is.

THE chagrin which had seized upon Fanny's spirits was not easily removed, for though she consented to go out, the objects which surrounded her were not sufficiently powerful to divert her melancholly. So recent an example of death before her eyes, of one who was in the bloom of youth and vigour, made her reflect how soon her final day might be at hand. This naturally presented to her mind

her past conduct, which she found admitted of many reproaches.

She had a cousin who had been married to an opulent tradesman in the city, and still lived there in her widowhood. She wrote a letter filled with pious reflections, assuring her she was entirely reclaimed from her former vicious course of life, and that she desired nothing so much, as to pass the remainder of her days in a virtuous retirement, secluded from all the follies and vices of the world: that if she would afford her such an asylum, she should look upon her as her second redeemer from sin.

The good woman who, though a quaker, was charmed at every opportunity of doing good, and as she phras-
ed

ed it "bringing back a lost sheep," readily answered her letter in the most courteous manner, giving her a free invitation to make use of her house as her own. Fanny accepted the invitation, and in a few days removed into the city.

Now we find Fanny under the name of the widow Atk——s, in a sober house, conversing upon pious subjects with a female quakeress, who imagined she should soon make a convert of her new reclaimed cousin. Fanny presently discovered that quakerism was not so ridiculous in itself, as it at first appeared; she found that, abstracted from some particular forms of speech, and some out of the way customs in their devotion, which extremes they fell into by avoiding the

P 3

opposite,

opposite, there was sound reason and great morality in their doctrines.

An opulent linnen-draper, of the same religious profession, visited in the house, and was greatly delighted to find Fanny so well disposed to be one of the elect. He was a bachelor, and by some hints he frequently dropped, she had reason to believe that her person was not indifferent to him. He greatly inveighed against dress and ornamental affectation, which induced Fanny to throw off even the coquetry of a widow's weed.—She was now a very quakerefs in dress,—and he prevailed upon her to attend meeting.

When he had thus far converted Fanny, he wrote to her the following billet-doux.

DEAR

DEAR SISTER,

“THESE presents wait unto
“thee, to let thee know the
“spirit hath moved me to think of
“thee in holy wedlock, in hopes to
“fructify thy body, and beget upon
“thee our likenesses, so that we may
“not go out of the world, without
“performing one of the principal in-
“tents of our coming in. If thine
“thoughts should hereupon conform
“to mine, thine answer will be agree-
“able to thy brother in faith,”

L. S.

This letter was very agreeable to Fanny, who now flattered herself she was within view of that haven of innocent comfort which she had so long sought.

sought. Her answer was couched in these terms.

DEAR BROTHER,

“THE great honour thou doest
 “ me, in offering me thine hand
 “ in holy matrimony, is far beyond
 “ my desert. All I can answer to thy
 “ kind letter is, that though my mo-
 “ desty might dictate a refusal, my
 “ hand would find great difficulty in
 “ writing sentiments so foreign to my
 “ heart. Thy discernment doth not
 “ require a more ample declaration to
 “ discover my meaning. I am,

“ dear brother,

“ thy affectionate sister in faith.”

FANNY ATK——s.

After

After these first overtures were made, little ceremony was required to come to a more ample avowal of sentiments, and Fanny's kinswoman did not fail using her utmost efforts to forward so advantageous a match for her. In a word, the day of their nuptials was appointed, and there seemed no obstacle to their being united for life.

In the mean while he took great pains to teach her to preach, as he said he never could think of a wife unable to preach the gospel, and point out to her ignorant brethren the true path to salvation. She soon learnt to say "the spirit moves me," in as puritanic a voice, and with as ridiculous a gesture, as any quakers whatever,
—and

——and in a truly parabolical tone uttered, ‘ If all the trees were in one tree, what a great tree that would be !’

Thus she soon arrived at a great proficiency in the art of preaching, and her destined husband was charmed with her. They passed the evening before their intended nuptials with the utmost pleasantry and good humour, and took their respective leaves to meet each other on the morrow morning by eight o’clock.

Ill-natured fortune would not consent to so favourable a destiny, but instigated envy to pen a letter to Fanny’s lover, wherein all her former gallantries were painted in the most odious light they would admit. This invidious piece had its intended effect,
and

and instead of a husband, the following letter came, addressed to Fanny's kinswoman:

DEAR SISTER,

“ I Find thou hast greatly imposed
“ upon me with respect to thy
“ kinswoman, whom thou didst endeavour to pass upon me for a modest, virtuous woman. The inclosed letter, which I have just now received, will be a sufficient apology for my not waiting upon thee according to promise, and breaking off the intended match.

“ I am sorry thou hast obliged me
“ thus to rebuke thee, as I am thy
“ brother in faith.”

This

This discovery greatly chagrined Fanny, nor was her cousin behind hand with her in mortification, by reason of the loss of her reputation among her brethren. — Each threw the blame upon the other, and words ensuing, Fanny's kinswoman ordered her to quit her house, and no longer remain a disgrace. Fanny did not require two such ordonnances, and immediately decamped.

C H A P.

C H A P. XVIII.

Fanny resumes her former gaiety, is taken into keeping by a young tradesman, who gives her a new chariot. — He leaves her, and a variety of fortune ensues.

FANNY's quakering plan was now entirely at an end, and with it she divested herself of all the false prudery and puritanic affectation she had been for some time obliged to wear. She took lodgings near Leicester-Fields, and once more appeared upon the gay horizon of the world.

A few nights after her re-appearance, she was at the play in one of the upper boxes, when, in the middle

P. Vol. II. Q of

of the most tender scene of Venice Preserv'd, a young fellow bolted in with boots and spurs, and began to hoot as if he had been at a hunt. The eyes of the whole house were presently upon that box, whilst the galleries hissed, and the play was at a stand. The blood still continued the chase ; still he was the game,——the whole audience started,——he joined in the cry, and the box was presently filled with officers, who were for disciplining him ; but upon his talking of the crown office, and hinting he was worth twenty thousand pounds, they thought the rustic beneath their notice.

By that time the box was cleared, the first effluvia of the liquor began to lose its force, and he descended to the first row to chatter with Fanny. She

She rallied him upon his behaviour, and he began to be sensible of his mistake, declaring he had been to a very hard set-to, where they had drank their six bottles a piece without stirring.

As the wine lost its force, his amorous passions came into play; he squeezed Fanny's hand, and expressed great raptures in the thoughts of possessing her. He accompanied her home, and insisted upon laying with her all night, but she prudently furnished him with another bed, telling him he was not a fit companion for a lady that evening.

The next day he agreed to allow her ten guineas a week, and purchase her a new chariot. Upon these terms she surrendered her virginity of four

months standing, and the widow A—
was transformed to Mrs. K——.

Fanny once more dazzled in a new post-chaise chariot, shone in public, and still reigned empress of fashion.— Her adversity had never dethroned her, and the countess of —— in vain pretended to supplant her. Fanny was never gaudy in dress, and but seldom expensive, yet she always gained the victory over her ladyship's extravagant novelties. The only contest wherein there was any kind of equality, was her ladyship's back against Fanny's legs. Victory hovered for some time over her ladyship's shoulders, but at length laid her laurel at Fanny's feet. The dispute was scarce decided, before the countess shewed her garter——but Fanny immediately

mediately dropt her petticoat, and nothing above the ankle was after seen.

These successes greatly increased her lover's fondness, who with the rest of mankind, looked upon Fanny as a nonpareil. He was lavish in his bounties upon her,—made her daily presents, and was charmed in being the support of a woman, who for many years had rivalled all her sex. He took her a snug box a few miles from Kew, and they enjoyed the retreat a whole summer.

Fortune's favours seem to be linked together, when you gain one many follow; but without that one, you are exempt from all the rest. Though Fanny had no reason to complain of want of opportunities of making a provision, she found they either came

in groupes, or her eyes were debarred even the shadow of a proposal. Now the young tradesman was so profuse upon her, she had offers in abundance. —My Lord F——, Mr. L——, and many more men of great fortune, proposed such terms as she would have been very glad to have accepted at another time, nor would she have refused them now, but she had a point to carry with her lover first,——this was a settlement.

She proposed the thing to him, and he readily consented to allow her a hundred a year for life; but the writings were not yet drawn, when he got acquainted with Lucy C—, who, without any charms, had power to attract him from Fanny, and entirely devote him to herself.

This

This was an unexpected stroke; but she solaced herself with the prospect she had with Mr. L——, in whose way she took every opportunity of throwing herself,—but he never after noticed her.

Her affairs were now beginning to be in as bad a way as ever.—Her chariot was sold,—her livery servants turned off,—and all her domestic expences retrenched. She was once more obliged to receive promiscuous lovers, many of whom thought they paid above the market price in giving a guinea.

Her delicacy had not deserted her, so that she frequently refused a cull who was nauseating in person, though his pocket was well filled. This prevented her reaping all the advantage
she

she might from her calling, and rendered her scarce able to support the appearance of a gentlewoman.

C H A P. XIX.

An adventure at the masquerade, and its consequences. Fanny is arrested for a small debt, and carried to a spunging-house, with an account of the behaviour of the bailiff, and his proposals.

THE nature of a masquerade is very little understood by those who have never been at one, yet it is generally condemned in the lump by the ignorant, and as ridiculously praised by those who are acquainted with it. A promiscuous assembly of a great number of persons masked, must

must certainly produce many favourable opportunities for intrigue; but then it must be pre-concerted, and miss, who has no intention of being debauched, runs no hazard, whilst mamma, who has laid the plan with a broad-back'd Irishman, cuckold the decrepid knight, who thinks her chastity proof against all attack.

This the following adventure will clearly illustrate.—Fanny had tickets given her for the masquerade, whither she went with her woman. Fanny, who was so well acquainted with these places, knew that coming in before twelve, was exhausting one's spirits in two hours of emptiness. She had scarce got to the side board, before she was accosted by lady ——, 'My 'dear Fanny, said she, I have the 'greatest favour to beg of you, that
' is,

'is, you would change dresses and
' personate me for the evening.' Fanny
complied, and they retired to a habit-
shop next door. My lady and Fanny
returned interchangeably dressed.—
Fanny joined my lord, and my lady
the captain, who soon retreated to-
gether to Haddock's. Towards the
conclusion of the evening, colonel
—— took Fanny out to dance as lady
——, and whilst they were walking
a minuet, Sir Thomas ——, whose
prudence was somewhat overpowered
with champaign, said in a loud whis-
per, 'An't you ashamed to dance with
' her?' My lord —— overheard
him, and insisted upon knowing his
meaning.—He replied, 'there was no
' need of any great explanation in re-
' gard to Fanny M——.' My lord
returned, he was mistaken if he took
the

the lady for her, for that it was my lady ——. The knight answered with a laugh, and told him, he could not hum him so. This nettled my lord, who insisted upon going out to have satisfaction. Fanny began to apprehend a discovery, and did her utmost endeavours to prevail upon the knight to drop it; but his courage being as much prompted by liquor as my lord's with pride, they agreed to go out, my lord insisting upon Fanny's presence, to prove the truth of what he said. It was now so circumstanced, that an immediate acknowledgement of her not being my lady were the only means left her to avoid going with them, and she was in hopes some way might still be found to reconcile the champions, without unmasking. They accordingly went to the very habit.

habit-shop, where Fanny had changed dresses with my lady, who was just returned from the bagnio with the captain. This last triumvirate was in the utmost consternation, which was greatly increas'd when my lord pulled off Fanny's mask to shew her as my lady—' Ah! said he, what do I see! ' impossible!' He was so enraged, he run to pull off his wife's mask, but the captain stept in between, and told him that lady was under his protection, and if he offered to unmask her, he should call him to account.

Sir Thomas found how it was by this time, and that this affair would turn out very seriously, with respect to the lady, if he did not bring her off. ' Ha! ha! my lord, said he, ' do you think I would have been so
 ' positive,

‘ positive, if I had not seen your lady
 ‘ drinking chocolate with Miss ——.
 ‘ I knew they were both dressed alike,
 ‘ and am surprized how you came to
 ‘ be deceived.’ My lord immediately
 flew to find out his wife, who with
 the utmost expedition put on her
 former dress, and going by the back
 door, was almost as soon as he in the
 gaming-room. She upbraided him
 with leaving her, and he told the
 story; she laughed at him, and he be-
 lieved her honest.

This adventure produced Fanny a
 twenty pound note the next day from
 my lady, with a letter of thanks. But
 this sum was not near sufficient to
 make good some of her payments;
 and among others a note for three
 pounds, which had become due.

A certain bailiff, in the politest parish in this metropolis, found means to purchase it, and, without giving Fanny any kind of notice, arrested her for the money, which she could easily have raised, but he took her to his house, telling her he could not discharge her till he had examined the books, to see if there was no other writ out against her. She was accordingly conveyed to his spunging-house, and when she had sent home for money to pay the demand, he told her there were writs out against her to the amount of an hundred pounds, but that she might make herself very easy there, for he would not discover her, provided she would consent to see company.

This proposal she rejected with the utmost detestation, for there was a
young

young creature in the house, who was arrested for four pounds, and had been detained upwards of two years, notwithstanding she had given her tyrant all the money she had got in company, amounting sometimes to three or four guineas a week, which he pretended went for her board and lodging, and that the debt was still unpaid.

Though it was false any more writs were out against her at the time of his making her this proposal, yet upon her rejecting it, he enquired after her creditors, whom he advised to come upon her all at once for their money; so that in fact she was now confined for upwards of two hundred pounds.

C H A P. XX.

Fanny's ineffectual address to all her acquaintance to relieve her. She at length writes to Mr. —, who generously pays her debts, and afterwards settles upon her an annuity of two hundred a year, with her present manner of living.

ADVERSITY is the only test of friendship, which it so frequently proves to be nothing but mere dross. Fanny, who but a short time before was rolling in her chariot, with all the splendor of a dutchess, courted and caressed by every man of fashion, was now confined in a loathsome spunging-house, daily threatened to be sent to Newgate, by those very harpies, who preyed upon the small
remains

remains of her substance. In this dismal situation she bethought herself to write to Mr. —— her late keeper, but received no answer. She addressed colonel —— upon the same account, but he was said to be out of town. In a word, there was not any one with whom she had any former connection, that was still living and in London, to whom she did not represent her situation, and claim his relief; but all her letters were equally successful;—not one of them produced her any satisfactory answer. Thus slighted by all her pretended friends, and upon the very brink of going to prison, she resolved, as a last resource, to supplicate one of the best men living, who not only has it in his power, but is willing to assist the afflicted. This was the letter she wrote him.

“SIR,

“**W**ITHOUT being able to
“claim any personal acquaint-
“ance with so truly exalted a cha-
“racter as yours; prompted by the
“universal opinion of your benefi-
“cence, I have dared pen these lines
“to you, to demand your aid.

“The small pretence I can make
“to your attention, would but disturb
“the ashes of your honoured father,
“whom you resemble in all his great
“deeds, without one of his faults. I
“have long endeavoured to quit that
“vicious path, which a first false step
“hurried me into. All my efforts have
“been frustrated, and yet my disposi-
“tion for penitence is more fervent
“than ever.

“I am:

“ I am now upon the very brink of
“ ruin,—my inhuman creditors have
“ been prevailed upon (by a wretch
“ who proposed sinister and cruel ad-
“ vantages to himself from my deten-
“ tion) to make all their demands at
“ once ; and without I can immedi-
“ ately raise the money, I shall be
“ conducted to a loathsome prison,
“ where, perhaps, I may remain for
“ life.

“ This, Sir, is my present situation,
“ and if it claims your pity, it will pro-
“ cure your beneficence; which the
“ most unkind treatment of all my
“ pretended friends has forced me to
“ supplicate.

“ I am, Sir,
“ with a thorough sense of your
“ many virtues, your most
“ obedient humble servant,
“ FANNY M——.”

The worthy person to whom this letter was addressed, read it with great attention, and sent her word she should hear from him soon. He enquired into the truth of what is hinted in the above letter, and finding there was some foundation to believe his father was her first seducer, he immediately sent her a sufficient sum to pay her debts.

Fanny was greatly astonished at such uncommon generosity, and as soon as she returned home, set herself down to pen an elaborate epistle, (which the nature of the place of confinement would not permit) to return thanks for so great a bounty. But she had scarce prepared pen and paper, when she received a message from her worthy benefactor, desiring her to come to him, which she accordingly did; when he received
her

her very graciously, and told her, ‘ he
‘ had a proposal to make, which he
‘ imagined would not be disagreeable,
‘ if the letter she wrote him contained
‘ her real sentiments, and she had
‘ not altered them.’ She replied,
‘ They actually were, and still remain-
‘ ed to be.’ He then informed her his
lady (who is a model of female virtue)
had desired him to settle an annuity
upon our heroine, conditionally; that
is, she should reform her life, and have
no correspondence with men, but that
she might marry if she chose it. She
readily agreed to the conditions, and
an annuity of two hundred a year was
settled upon her.

Since that time her amours and in-
trigues are at an end; the world are
divided in their opinion, whether or no
she is married, and we can assure them
she

she is, to a man who is deserving the best of wives, which she makes.

Here then we must finish our history, and lay down our pen, after having faithfully, and as far as came to our knowledge, given the memoirs of one of the most extraordinary women that ever appeared upon the theatre of gallantry. One, whose natural disposition was not vicious, but who, having made a false step, found many obstacles to return into the path of virtue—who was neither avaricious, luxurious, or debauched, further then necessity obliged, but animated with sentiments that would have adorned a much more worthy and exalted station. Ever grateful, humane, charitable, and generous: she practised more virtues than half her sex—and yet for a single vice, incontinence,

continence, expelled the band of virtuous society.

Reader, if thou art a female, learn from these sheets how to avoid the snares and deceits of mankind; who, though born to protect, live but to undo you; and that there are still greater monsters of your own sex, who, without any other incentive than base lucre, are frequently the most instrumental in your ruin. If these memoirs should be the means of saving only one innocent girl from destruction, this would give them a greater merit than any the author claims from their production; and for the same reason, Charity, which is one of Fanny's greatest virtues, will induce her to approve this publication.

F I N I S.